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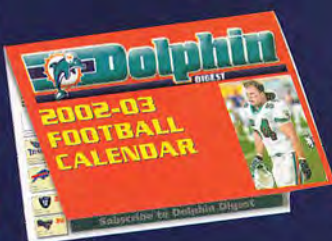
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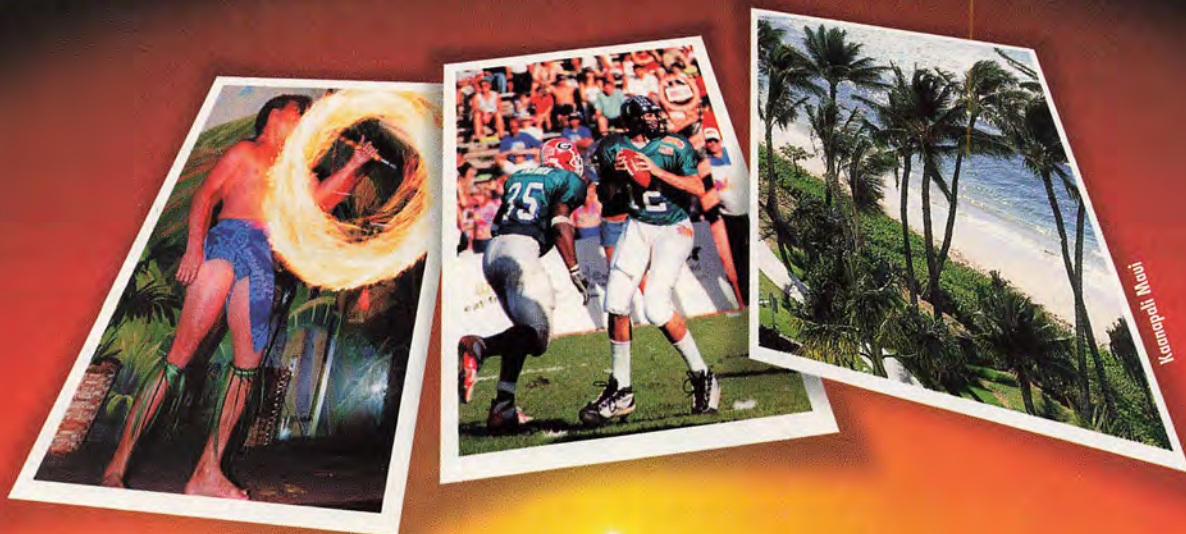
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## Here's hoping we make the most of our Red-Zone opportunities.

Now that we've had all winter to contemplate Tom Brady's fumble (yes, it was), Mel Kiper's hair, John Madden's move to ABC and the many sneering faces of Jon Gruden, we at *Street & Smith's* sure are ready for some football.

And we want you to be ready.

You'll notice we're taking a somewhat different approach this year, calling an audible at the line that we hope will make *Street & Smith's Pro Football* a bit more fun for you to read, yet keeping all the nuts and bolts that you've come to expect from us.

The biggest change is a feature we're calling "The Red Zone," 20 pages dealing with answers to questions about the NFL and the upcoming season that perhaps members of the media have always wanted to know but were afraid to ask. Some are serious, some are off-the-wall, some are your typical football stuff. But we've got answers to all of them, and hopefully we'll make you think about some things regarding the NFL that haven't crossed your mind before.

Along that line, check out a new department, Pro's Pro (page 44), where our Michael Fresina finds out which athlete Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick most looked up to while growing up as a boy in Newport News, Virginia, and why.

Les Kovach meets all of your fantasy

football needs on page 18, and we've brought in California draft guru Brian Stevenson (a Kiper without the bad hair) of *Stevenson's Draft Notebook* to help us figure out who won and who lost in April's NFL Draft. Brian provides the kind of insider's analysis on page 12 that we think you'll like as hard-core football fans.

Finally, what would *Street & Smith's Pro Football* be without the in-depth team previews? The *Chicago Tribune's* Don Pierson is back to take you through the NFC, while the *Houston Chronicle's* John McClain makes his debut with us covering the AFC. If that's not enough, we've even got the CFL covered for you (the only annual to do so). The *Toronto Star's* Rick Matsumoto handles that assignment on page 190. How 'bout them Argonauts, eh?

If you want more after all of this, please log on to our web site, [www.streetandsmiths.com](http://www.streetandsmiths.com), where you'll find NFL updates, book reviews, fantasy coverage and various odds and ends that we hope will complement what you'll find in these pages.

Until next season, may your Sundays (and Monday nights with Madden) bring you much happiness.

**D. SCOTT SMITH**  
MANAGING EDITOR

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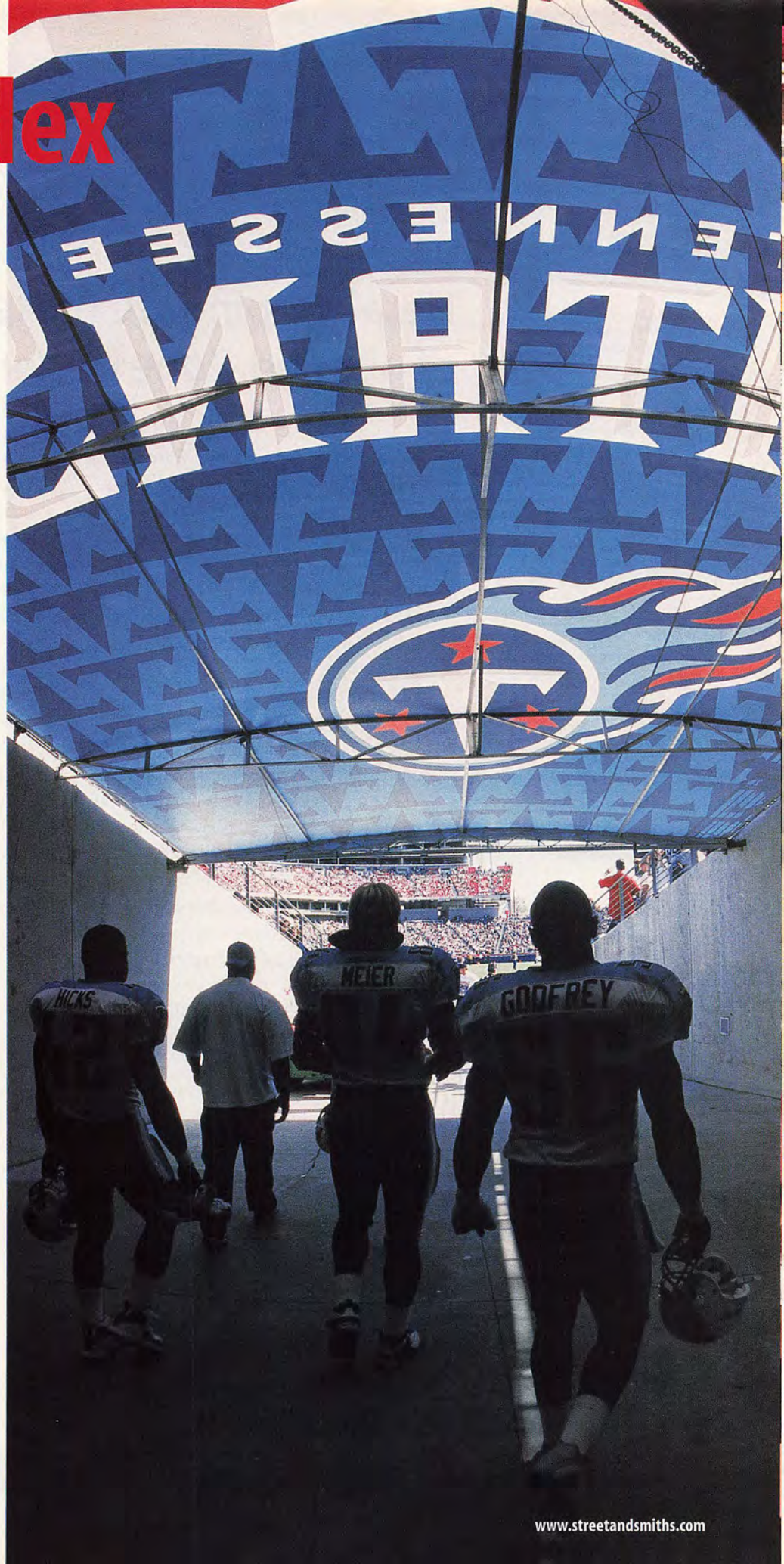


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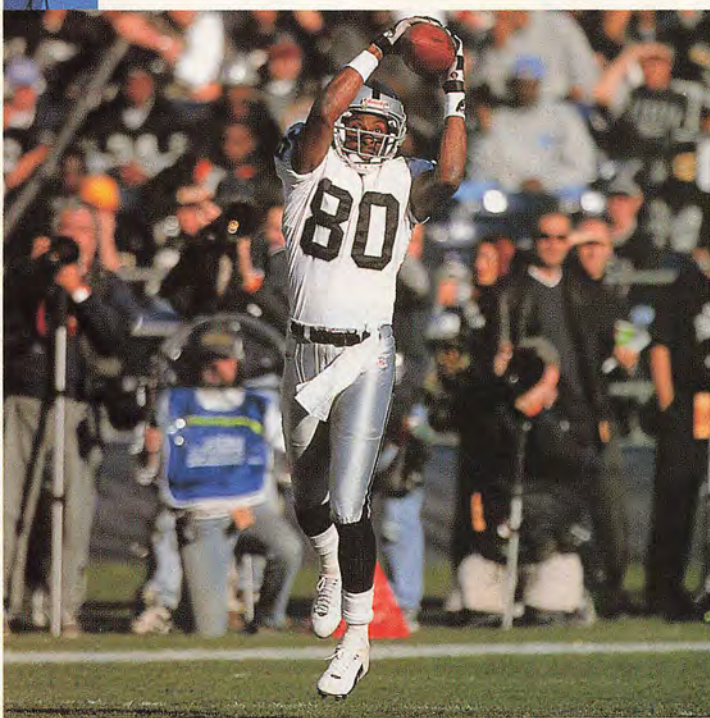
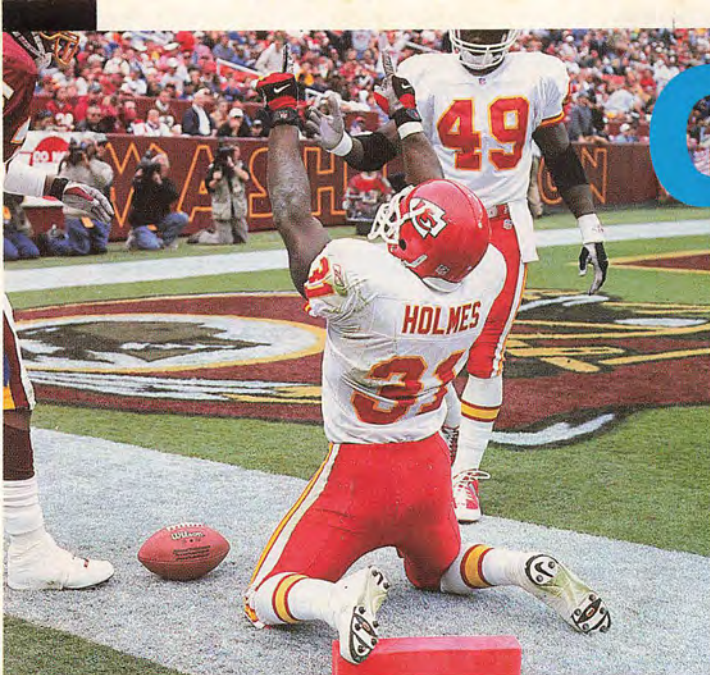
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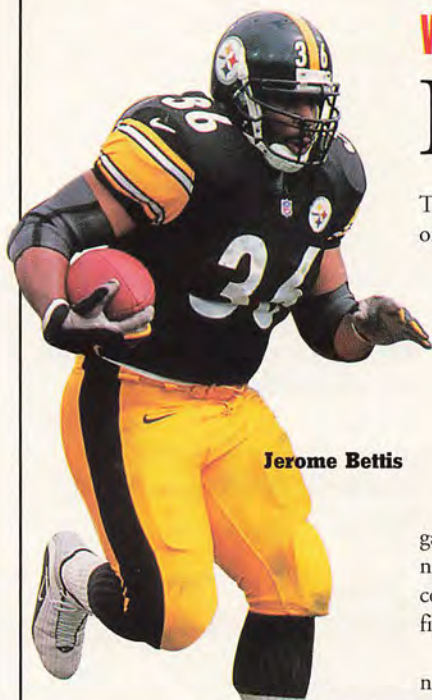
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# BY THE NUMBERS

A look inside last season's stats reveals some little-known facts.

by STATS Inc.



Jerome Bettis

## Was the Steelers' 2001 rush-yard differential one of the best ever?

If it's smash-mouth football you like, then Heinz Field was the place to be last season. Powered by four players who gained at least 400 yards apiece, the Pittsburgh Steelers led the NFL with 2,774 rushing yards. In addition, their defense allowed fewer yards on the ground than any other team. The Steelers wound up outgaining their opponents by a whopping 1,579 rushing yards in 2001. That's exceptional, considering no other club boasted a margin larger than 673 (49ers) last season. And only two other teams in history have done better:

### Largest rushing-yards differential (since 1933)

Year	Team	Yds	Opp	Diff
1973	Rams	2,925	1,270	+1,655
1984	Bears	2,974	1,377	+1,597
2001	Steelers	2,774	1,195	+1,579
1934	Lions	2,740	231	+1,509
1976	Steelers	2,971	1,467	+1,504

Every team on this list was very successful during the regular season. They each won at least 10 games and combined for a lousy .753 (55-18) winning percentage. However, it's interesting to note that not one of them wound up winning an NFL title. The 1976 Steelers and 1984 Bears both lost their conference championship games. The 1973 Rams lost a divisional playoff game, while the 1934 Lions finished second in the NFL's Western Division despite a 10-3 record.

Given that history, the Steelers' upset at the hands of New England in last year's postseason may not have been as surprising as it first seemed.

## Who comes up big late?

Which signal-caller starred the most in the fourth quarter of games in 2001? Whether you like or dislike the performance of Miami quarterback Jay Fiedler, you had to appreciate his flair for the dramatic in 2001. Fiedler finished the season with an unspectacular 20 TD passes against 19 interceptions, but he packed 11 of those scoring tosses into the fourth quarter of games:

### Most fourth-quarter TD passes, 2001

Jay Fiedler, Mia	11
Jeff Garcia, SF	10
Jake Plummer, Az	10
Aaron Brooks, NO	8
Kerry Collins, NYG	8
Rich Gannon, Oak	8

Of course, it wasn't as if Miami didn't need Fiedler to come up big in the fourth quarter. With the Dartmouth grad at the controls, the Fish came from behind to win five games that they trailed in the fourth quarter. Most memorable was a November 25 comeback in Buffalo in which Fiedler threw for 123 yards and three scores in the fourth quarter alone, as Miami scored 24 points in the final period to grab a 34-27 win. Rookie Chris Chambers was on the receiving end of two fourth-quarter Fiedler scoring tosses in that game, and finished the season with five fourth-quarter touchdown grabs, which tied for the league lead. No wonder Miami led the NFL with 142 fourth-quarter points last season.



Jay Fiedler

## What defenses truly bend but don't break?

Which defenses were stingiest in their own half of the field last season? Last season's Super Bowl champs, the New England Patriots, ranked only 24th in the league in total yards allowed during the regular season, but a very solid sixth in points allowed. The Pats were outgained by a 427-267 margin in the Super Bowl, but still walked off the field with a shocking upset of the Rams. How did the Pats do it? How was Bill Belichick's defense able to give up so many yards but so few points?

The key was where on the field the Pats gave up those yards. During the regular season, the New England defense allowed only 3.65 yards per play when backed up to its own half of the field, the second-best figure in the league:

### Fewest yards per play allowed inside own 50-yard line, 2001

Bears	3.64
Patriots	3.65
Steelers	3.68
Ravens	3.81
49ers	3.86

Of course, the league average in yards-per-play allowed is much greater on plays when the offense is 50 or more yards away from the end zone. But in New England's case, the difference was especially pronounced. The 2001 Pats allowed 6.62 yards per play when the line of scrimmage was in the opponent's territory, good for second highest in the league. They were almost three yards per play better in their own half of the field. It was the same story in the postseason, too—5.74 yards per play allowed on the opponent's side of midfield, 3.49 yards per play allowed on their own half of the field. New England was truly the epitome of the bend-but-don't-break defense last year.

TOP TO BOTTOM: PAUL CHAPMAN/BRSP; STEVE BEYER



## Who loves to throw the yellow flag?

**W**hich refereeing crews called the most penalties in 2001? For every television crew that covers NFL games, a regular part of the pre-game production meeting is a discussion of the refereeing crew that will be handling that week's contest. No matter what the numbers indicate, certain refs are known for calling lots of penalties, while others are known for penalty-free contests. Here are the real figures—the average number of penalties called by each regular officiating crew in the 2001 season:

### NFL officiating crews' penalties per game, 2001 (listed by each crew's referee)

Terry McAulay	15.1
Larry Nemmers	15.1
Mike Carey	12.4
Tony Corrente	12.3
Jeff Triplette	12.1
Gerry Austin	12.0
Johnny Grier	12.0
Bill Leavy	11.9
Bill Carollo	11.8
Bernie Kukar	11.4
Ron Blum	10.9
Bob McElwee	10.9
Ed Hochuli	10.6
Tom White	10.2
Walt Coleman	10.1
Dick Hantak	10.1
Ron Winter	10.1

In past years, Dick Hantak's crew has been known for calling lots of penalties; in 2001, the opposite was true. What fans may not realize is that the line judge, back judge, side judge, etc., on any referee's crew can change significantly from season to season. The referee is only one of eight men with yellow flags in his pocket, and the total number of penalties is determined by all eight men, not just the one who gets to make the announcements. Bottom line: If you think there are too many penalties, don't blame it all on the ref.

## Do teams without a 1,000-yard rusher ever win the Super Bowl?

**Q**uick—who was the leading rusher on the 49ers' first Super Bowl team, back in 1981? Roger Craig was still in college, and Joe Montana, even at the age of 24, wasn't much of a running QB. That leaves ... Ricky Patton, who amassed all of 543 yards that season.

Those '81 49ers were something of a rarity—a team without a 1,000-yard rusher that won the Super Bowl. In the 22 seasons of the 16-game schedule, only five Super Bowl champs have not had a 1,000-yard rusher.

Nine of the last 11 Super Bowl champs have had a 1,000-yard rusher. The two teams that did not, the '94 49ers and '96 Packers, both ran the West Coast offense. It's not really all that special to have a running back



Edgar Bennett



## Was New England's postseason point differential the smallest of any Super Bowl champion?

**I**t's hard to overstate the magnitude of New England's incredible 2001 season. The Patriots had entered the campaign as long shots to escape the AFC East basement, much less make the playoffs. Instead, they completed a dream season by pulling off one of the biggest upsets in Super Bowl history.

Of course, the Patriots accomplished their feat by the slimmest of margins. They needed overtime, as well as a controversial replay overturn, to defeat the Raiders in the divisional playoffs. New England then held on for a seven-point victory over the Steelers in the AFC Championship game before nipping the Rams on a last-second field goal. Its average postseason margin of victory, 4.3 points, was the smallest by any Super Bowl winner:

### Smallest average postseason margin of victory by a Super Bowl winner

Year/Team	Margin
2001/Patriots	4.3
1972/Dolphins	5.7
1968/Jets	6.5
1981/49ers	6.7
1999/Rams	8.0

It's interesting that the 1968 Jets, another huge Super Bowl underdog, also had a close postseason run, albeit in only two games. But then the 1972 Dolphins, who were good enough to go undefeated, rank between the Jets and Patriots.

The Rams also know what the feeling is like to win the close ones, having emerged as champions in 1999 after winning three games by an average margin of eight points. In their case, it seems that what goes around comes around.

pick up 1,000 yards on the ground anymore; in 2001, 15 of the league's 31 teams had a 1,000-yard rusher. But perhaps it is significant that three of last year's conference champions—New England, St. Louis and Pittsburgh—were among those 15 teams. Does winning games—and holding the lead—allow for more rushing yards, or is it the workhorse back who is responsible for carrying his team to the title? Either way, there is a proven correlation between having a 1,000-yard rusher and winning the big game.

### Super Bowl champs without 1,000-yard rushers (16-game schedule only)

Year	Team	Leading Rusher, Yards
1980	Raiders	Mark van Eeghen, 838
1981	49ers	Ricky Patton, 543
1990	Giants	O.J. Anderson, 784
1994	49ers	Ricky Watters, 877
1996	Packers	Edgar Bennett, 899



## How does the Rams' three-year scoring average rank all-time?

For the Rams' high-powered offense, the exceptional seemingly has become the routine. Consider that through 1998, only six teams had managed to score at least 500 points in any season. Since then, only the Rams have accomplished the feat, and they've done so in each of the past three years.

Of course, there are more games being played these days than there were prior to 1978. So a point total in 2001 isn't quite as impressive as the same sum in 1968. Nevertheless, the Rams' per-game average over the past three years stacks up well historically.

The Rams have averaged 32.7 points per game since 1999, the fourth-best three-year rate since 1921. Their main competition for the title of Most Prolific Offense is their Los Angeles ancestors of a half-century ago. Those Rams led the NFL in points scored each year from 1950 to 1952, and finished second in 1949 and 1953.

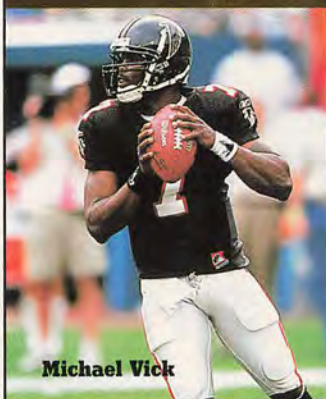
The "Monsters of the Midway" Bears of the early '40s also scored points in bunches. In modern times, the 49ers of the early '90s come closest to St. Louis' firepower. However, the Rams' average beats San Francisco's mark of 1993-95 by nearly three points per game. Clearly, the Rams' current offense is one for the ages.



### Most points per game over a 3-year span (since 1921)

Span	Team	Pts	Gm	Avg
1949-51	Rams	1,218	36	33.8
1941-43	Bears	1,075	32	33.6
1950-52	Rams	1,207	36	33.5
1999-01	Rams	1,569	48	32.7
1948-50	Rams	1,153	36	32.0

## Who's more effective—scrambling QBs or pocket passers?



Michael Vick

When the Atlanta Falcons snatched Michael Vick with the first pick of the 2001 draft, they knew the kind of player they were getting. Possessor of a rocket arm, terrific speed and superior running ability, Vick is the prototype quarterback of this era.

Teams seem enamored of quarterbacks like Vick—athletes who can beat you with their arm or their legs. And looking at last year's numbers, we can glean some insight into why his ilk might be gaining favor:

### Running QBs vs. pocket passers, 2001

	Running	Pocket
Comp. pct.	59.0	59.5
Yards/att.	6.83	6.79
Att/TD	24.4	26.7
Att/INT	33.2	28.8
Rating	80.8	78.0
Sack pct.	7.4	6.4
Rush avg.	4.78	2.79

We divided quarterbacks with at least 100 pass attempts into runners and pocket passers based on their ratio of runs to passes. Those with at least one rush for every 10 pass attempts were considered runners, while all others were grouped with the traditional, pocket-type passers. Quarterbacks like Vick, Donovan McNabb and Jeff Garcia are in the first group, while the second includes guys like Kurt Warner and Peyton Manning.

As you can see, the "scramblers" enjoyed an edge in five of the seven listed categories. Although their running ability couldn't prevent a higher sack percentage, the more nimble QBs produced slightly better rates for yards, touchdowns and interceptions. The numbers are relatively close, so we don't want to go overboard. But edges help win football games, and players such as Vick figure to get more opportunities to do so.

## How many of Michael Strahan's sacks helped stop opponents' drives?

New York Giants defensive end Michael Strahan established a new record with 22.5 sacks last season, breaking Mark Gastineau's 17-year mark. Of course, many observers believed Strahan's final sack was a bit dubious, coming as it did on a questionable rollout by Green Bay's Brett Favre in the fourth quarter of New York's final game. The Packers led by nine points at the time, so Strahan's sack didn't seem to have much of an impact on the final result.

But while the sack of Favre may not have been a momentum-turner, most of Strahan's other efforts did have value. Here's a summary of his production in 2001:

### Michael Strahan sacks, 2001

Sacks	22.5
Sack plays	25
Opponent drives	24
Drives with subsequent first downs	4
Drives with subsequent points	3
Drives with subsequent touchdown	1
Game score within 7 points	17
Game score within 14 points	25

Strahan shared five sacks with teammates, so there were a total of 25 plays on which he recorded at least half a sack. On each one, the Giants were within two touchdowns of their opponent. And on two-thirds of them, the margin was within seven points.

On only one occasion during the season did an opponent recover from a Strahan sack to score a touchdown on the same drive. Two other times, they converted field goals. And not once after October did the opposing offense subsequently record a first down on the drive.

Sure, Strahan's final "takedown" may have left a questionable aftertaste, but his sacks generally made a positive impact.





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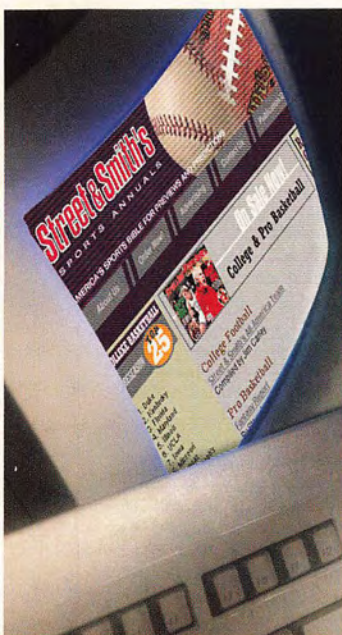
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# TARGETS

How today's stars stack up with the all-time leaders.

## Active players in 2001 in caps

by STATS Inc.

### TOUCHDOWNS

JERRY RICE	196
EMMITT SMITH	159
Marcus Allen	145
CRIS CARTER	130
Jim Brown	126
Walter Payton	125
John Riggins	116



Jerry Rice

Lenny Moore	113
MARSHALL FAULK	110
Barry Sanders	109
Don Hutson	105
Steve Largent	101
Franco Harris	100
TIM BROWN	100
Eric Dickerson	96
Jim Taylor	93
Bobby Mitchell	91
Tony Dorsett	91
RICKY WATERS	91
Leroy Kelly	90
Charley Taylor	90
Don Maynard	88
Irving Fryar	88
Andre Reed	88
Thurman Thomas	88
Lance Alworth	87
Paul Warfield	86
Ottis Anderson	86
Tommy McDonald	85
Mark Clayton	85
Herschel Walker	84
Andre Rison	84
Art Powell	82
Pete Johnson	82
Harold Carmichael	79
James Brooks	79
TERRY ALLEN	79
Frank Gifford	78
Steve Van Buren	77
Fred Biletnikoff	77
Bill Brown	76
Bob Hayes	76
O.J. Simpson	76
Harold Jackson	76

Chuck Foreman	76
James Lofton	76
Nat Moore	75
John David Crow	74
Chuck Muncie	74
Earl Campbell	74

### POINTS

GARY ANDERSON	2,133
MORTEN ANDERSEN	2,036
George Blanda	2,002
Norm Johnson	1,736
Nick Lowery	1,711
Jan Stenerud	1,699
Eddie Murray	1,594
Al Del Greco	1,584
Pat Leahy	1,470
Jim Turner	1,439
Matt Bahr	1,422
Mark Moseley	1,382
Jim Bakken	1,380
Fred Cox	1,365
Lou Groza	1,349
Jim Breech	1,246
Pete Stoyanovich	1,236
Chris Bahr	1,213
Kevin Butler	1,208
STEVE CHRISTIE	1,207
JOHN CARNEY	1,201
JERRY RICE	1,184
MATT STOVER	1,134
Gino Cappelletti	1,130
Ray Wersching	1,122
Don Cockroft	1,080
Garó Yepremian	1,074
JASON ELAM	1,073
JASON HANSON	1,044
Bruce Gossett	1,031
Jeff Jaeger	1,008
Sam Baker	977
JOHN KASAY	964
Greg Davis	962
Rafael Septien	960
EMMITT SMITH	956
Lou Michaels	955
Chris Jacke	944
Fuad Revez	931
Chip Lohmiller	913
Roy Gerela	903
Bobby Walston	881
Tony Zendejas	874
Tony Franklin	872
Marcus Allen	872
Pete Gogolak	863
Errol Mann	846
Don Hutson	823
Dean Biasucci	823
Rich Karlis	799

### TOUCHDOWN PASSES

Dan Marino	420
Fran Tarkenton	342
John Elway	300
Warren Moon	291
Johnny Unitas	290
BRETT FAVRE	287
Joe Montana	273
Dave Krieg	261

Sonny Jurgensen	255
Dan Fouts	254
Boomer Esiason	247
John Hadl	244
VINNY TESTAVERDE	241
Len Dawson	239
Jim Kelly	237
George Blanda	236
Steve Young	232
John Brodie	214
Y.A. Tittle	212
Terry Bradshaw	212
Jim Hart	209
RANDALL CUNNINGHAM	207
Jim Everett	203
Roman Gabriel	201
Phil Simms	199
Ken Anderson	197
Bobby Layne	196
Norm Snead	196
Joe Ferguson	196
Steve DeBerg	196
Ken Stabler	194
Bob Griese	192
Sammy Baugh	187
Craig Morton	183
Steve Grogan	182
Ron Jaworski	179
Babe Parilli	178
Charlie Conerly	173
Norm Van Brocklin	173
Joe Namath	173
Charley Johnson	170
DREW BLEDSOE	166
Troy Aikman	165
Daryle Lamonia	164
Jim Plunkett	164
Earl Morrall	161
CHRIS CHANDLER	161
Joe Theismann	160
Tommy Kramer	159
Steve Bartkowski	156

### PASSING YARDAGE

Dan Marino	61,361
John Elway	51,475
Warren Moon	49,325
Fran Tarkenton	47,003
Dan Fouts	43,040
Joe Montana	40,551
Johnny Unitas	40,239
VINNY TESTAVERDE	39,059
BRETT FAVRE	38,627
Dave Krieg	38,147
Boomer Esiason	37,920
Jim Kelly	35,467
Jim Everett	34,837
Jim Hart	34,665
Steve DeBerg	34,241
John Hadl	33,503
Phil Simms	33,462
Steve Young	33,124
Troy Aikman	32,942
Ken Anderson	32,838
Sonny Jurgensen	32,224
John Brodie	31,548
Norm Snead	30,797
RANDALL CUNNINGHAM	29,979
Joe Ferguson	29,817

DREW BLEDSOE	29,657
Roman Gabriel	29,444
Len Dawson	28,711
Y.A. Tittle	28,339
Ron Jaworski	28,190
Terry Bradshaw	27,989
Ken Stabler	27,938
Craig Morton	27,908
Joe Namath	27,663
JEFF GEORGE	27,602
George Blanda	26,920
Steve Grogan	26,886
Bobby Layne	26,768
Jim Harbaugh	26,288
CHRIS CHANDLER	25,948
Jim Plunkett	25,882
Joe Theismann	25,206
Ken O'Brien	25,094
Bob Griese	25,092
Tommy Kramer	24,777
Bart Starr	24,718
Charley Johnson	24,410
Steve Bartkowski	24,124
Archie Manning	23,911
Brian Sipe	23,713

### PASS COMPLETIONS

Dan Marino	4,967
John Elway	4,123
Warren Moon	3,988
Fran Tarkenton	3,686
Joe Montana	3,409



Brett Favre

BRETT FAVRE	3,311
Dan Fouts	3,297
VINNY TESTAVERDE	3,157
Dave Krieg	3,105
Boomer Esiason	2,969
Troy Aikman	2,898
Steve DeBerg	2,874
Jim Kelly	2,874
Jim Everett	2,841
Johnny Unitas	2,830
Steve Young	2,667
Ken Anderson	2,654
Jim Hart	2,593

LEFT TO RIGHT: TOMASSO DEROSA, DENNIS HUBBARD



Phil Simms .....	2,576
DREW BLEDSOE .....	2,544
John Brodie .....	2,469
Sonny Jurgensen .....	2,433
RANDALL CUNNINGHAM .....	2,429
Joe Ferguson .....	2,369
Roman Gabriel .....	2,366
John Hadl .....	2,363
Jim Harbaugh .....	2,305
JEFF GEORGE .....	2,298
Norm Snead .....	2,276
Ken Stabler .....	2,270
Ron Jaworski .....	2,187
Len Dawson .....	2,136
Y.A. Tittle .....	2,118
Ken O'Brien .....	2,110
CHRIS CHANDLER .....	2,083
Craig Morton .....	2,053
Joe Theismann .....	2,044
Terry Bradshaw .....	2,025
Tommy Kramer .....	2,012
Archie Manning .....	2,011
Bernie Kosar .....	1,994
RICH GANNON .....	1,949
Brian Sipe .....	1,944
Jim Plunkett .....	1,943
Steve Bartkowski .....	1,932
Bob Griese .....	1,926
George Blanda .....	1,911
MARK BRUNELL .....	1,897
Joe Namath .....	1,886
Steve Grogan .....	1,879

## RUSHING YARDAGE

Walter Payton .....	16,726
EMMITT SMITH .....	16,187
Barry Sanders .....	15,269
Eric Dickerson .....	13,259
Tony Dorsett .....	12,739
Jim Brown .....	12,312
Marcus Allen .....	12,243
Franco Harris .....	12,120
Thurman Thomas .....	12,074
John Riggins .....	11,352
O.J. Simpson .....	11,236
JEROME BETTIS .....	10,876
RICKY WATERS .....	10,643
Ottis Anderson .....	10,273
MARSHALL FAULK .....	9,442
Earl Campbel .....	9,407
CURTIS MARTIN .....	9,267
TERRY ALLEN .....	8,614
Jim Taylor .....	8,597
Joe Perry .....	8,378
Earnest Byner .....	8,261
Herschel Walker .....	8,225
Roger Craig .....	8,189
Gerald Riggs .....	8,188
Larry Csonka .....	8,081
Freeman McNeil .....	8,074
James Brooks .....	7,962
EDDIE GEORGE .....	7,813
Chris Warren .....	7,696
TERRELL DAVIS .....	7,607
Mike Pruitt .....	7,378
Leroy Kelly .....	7,274
George Rogers .....	7,176
Rodney Hampton .....	6,897
Curt Warner .....	6,844
Robert Smith .....	6,818
John Henry Johnson .....	6,803
Wilbert Montgomery .....	6,789
Chuck Muncie .....	6,702
Mark van Eeghen .....	6,651
Lawrence McCutcheon .....	6,578
Lydell Mitchell .....	6,534
Wendell Tyler .....	6,378
Floyd Little .....	6,323
Don Perkins .....	6,217
COREY DILLON .....	6,209

Neal Anderson .....	6,166
GARRISON HEARST .....	6,145
Ken Willard .....	6,105
Calvin Hill .....	6,083

## RECEPTIONS

JERRY RICE .....	1,364
CRIS CARTER .....	1,093
Andre Reed .....	951
Art Monk .....	940
TIM BROWN .....	937
Irving Fryar .....	851
Steve Largent .....	819
Henry Ellard .....	814
LARRY CENTERS .....	765
James Lofton .....	764
Charlie Joiner .....	750
Michael Irvin .....	750
Andre Rison .....	743
Gary Clark .....	699
SHANNON SHARPE .....	692
HERMAN MOORE .....	670
TERANCE MATHIS .....	666
Ozzie Newsome .....	662
Charley Taylor .....	649
Drew Hill .....	634
Don Maynard .....	633
Raymond Berry .....	631
Rob Moore .....	628
Keith Byars .....	610
Sterling Sharpe .....	595
Anthony Miller .....	595
TONY MARTIN .....	593
Harold Carmichael .....	590
Fred Biletnikoff .....	589
Marcus Allen .....	587
JIMMY SMITH .....	584
Bill Brooks .....	583
Mark Clayton .....	582
Ronnie Harmon .....	581
Brian Blades .....	581
Harold Jackson .....	579
KEENAN MCCARDELL .....	579
Ernest Givins .....	571
Mark Carrier .....	569
Lionel Taylor .....	567
Roger Craig .....	566
Webster Slaughter .....	563
Wes Chandler .....	559
Roy Green .....	559
Stanley Morgan .....	557
Eric Martin .....	553
MARSHALL FAULK .....	548
John L. Williams .....	546
J.T. Smith .....	544
Lance Alworth .....	542
JEFF GRAHAM .....	542

## RECEIVING YARDS

JERRY RICE .....	20,386
James Lofton .....	14,004
CRIS CARTER .....	13,833
Henry Ellard .....	13,777
TIM BROWN .....	13,237
Andre Reed .....	13,198
Steve Largent .....	13,089
Irving Fryar .....	12,785
Art Monk .....	12,721
Charlie Joiner .....	12,146
Michael Irvin .....	11,904
Don Maynard .....	11,834
Gary Clark .....	10,856
Stanley Morgan .....	10,716
Harold Jackson .....	10,372
Lance Alworth .....	10,266
Andre Rison .....	10,205
Drew Hill .....	9,831
Rob Moore .....	9,368
Raymond Berry .....	9,275

HERMAN MOORE .....	9,174
Anthony Miller .....	9,148
Charley Taylor .....	9,110
TONY MARTIN .....	9,065
Harold Carmichael .....	8,985
Fred Biletnikoff .....	8,974
Mark Clayton .....	8,974
Wes Chandler .....	8,966
Roy Green .....	8,965
Mark Duper .....	8,869
Mark Carrier .....	8,763
John Stallworth .....	8,723
Cliff Branch .....	8,685
SHANNON SHARPE .....	8,604
TERANCE MATHIS .....	8,591
Paul Warfield .....	8,565
Billy Howton .....	8,459
Tommy McDonald .....	8,410
ISAAC BRUCE .....	8,405
Wesley Walker .....	8,306
Carroll Dale .....	8,277
JIMMY SMITH .....	8,260
Ernest Givins .....	8,215
JEFF GRAHAM .....	8,172
Eric Martin .....	8,161
Sterling Sharpe .....	8,134
Webster Slaughter .....	8,111
Haven Moses .....	8,091
Art Powell .....	8,046
Bill Brooks .....	8,001

## INTERCEPTIONS

Paul Krause .....	81
Emlen Tunnell .....	79
Dick "Night Train" Lane .....	68
Ken Riley .....	65
Ronnie Lott .....	63
Dick LeBeau .....	62
Dave Brown .....	62
ROD WOODSON .....	61
Emmitt Thomas .....	58
Johnny Robinson .....	57
Bobby Boyd .....	57
Mel Blount .....	57
Everson Walls .....	57
Eugene Robinson .....	57
Pat Fischer .....	56
Lem Barney .....	56
Willie Brown .....	54
DARRELL GREEN .....	54
ERIC ALLEN .....	54
Jack Butler .....	52
Bobby Dillon .....	52
Jimmy Patton .....	52
Larry Wilson .....	52
Mel Renfro .....	52
Bobby Bryant .....	51
Donnie Shell .....	51
Yale Lary .....	50
Don Burroughs .....	50
John Harris .....	50
Deron Cherry .....	50
AENEAS WILLIAMS .....	50
Ken Houston .....	49
Jake Scott .....	49
Richie Petitbon .....	48
Willie Wood .....	48
Dave Grayson .....	48
Herb Adderley .....	48
Dave Waymer .....	48
Deion Sanders .....	48
Jim Johnson .....	47
Lemar Parrish .....	47
Jack Christiansen .....	46
Dave Whitsett .....	46
Ed Meador .....	46
Goose Gosoulin .....	46
Mike Haynes .....	46
Erich Barnes .....	45
Jim Norton .....	45



Aeneas Williams

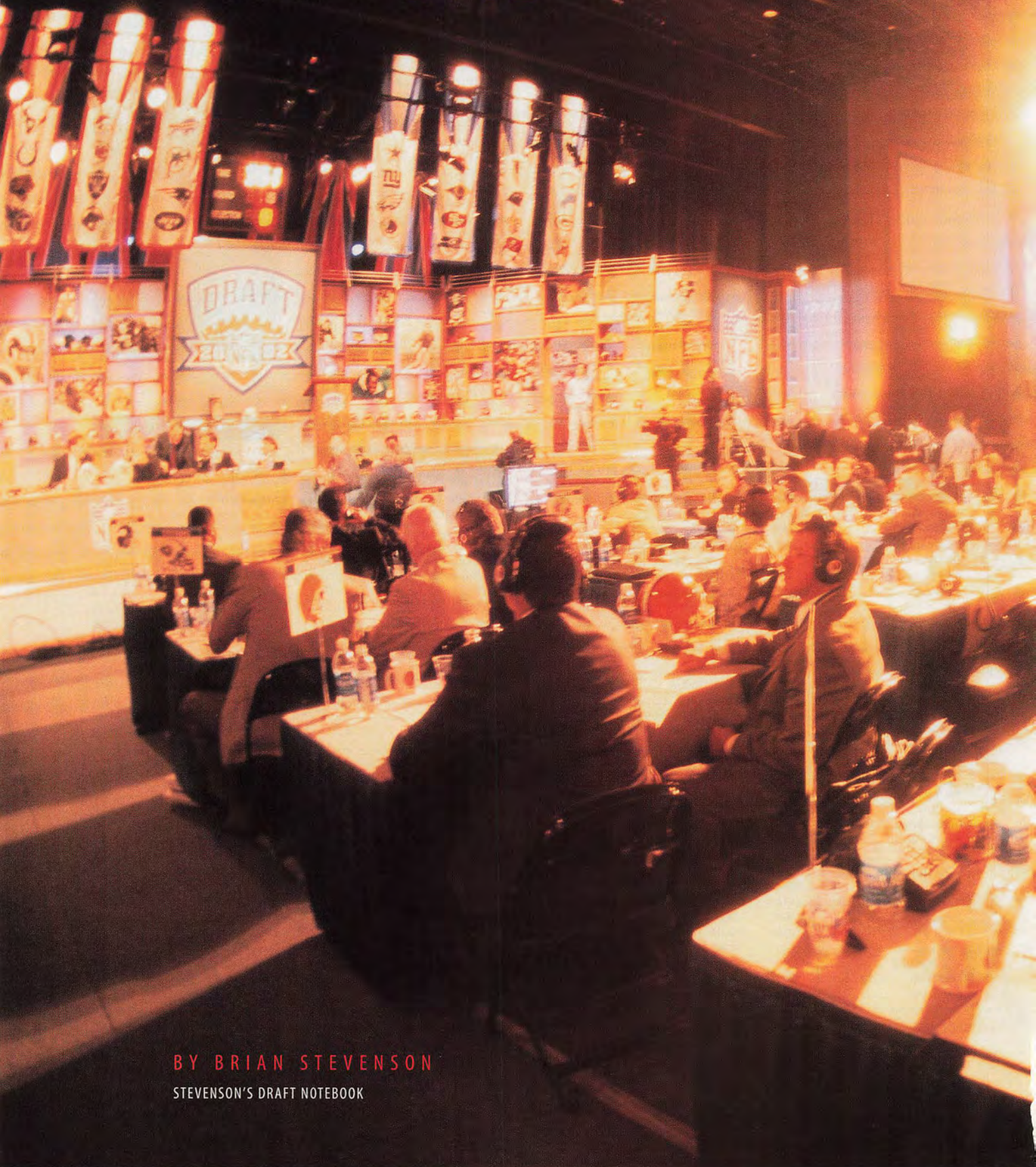
Thom Darden .....	45
JAMES HASTY .....	45

## SACKS

Reggie White .....	198.0
BRUCE SMITH .....	186.0
Kevin Greene .....	160.0
Chris Doleman .....	150.5
Richard Dent .....	137.5
Lawrence Taylor .....	132.5
Leslie O'Neal .....	132.5
Rickey Jackson .....	128.0
Derrick Thomas .....	126.5
JOHN RANDLE .....	125.0
Clyde Simmons .....	121.5
Sean Jones .....	113.0
Greg Townsend .....	109.5
Pat Swilling .....	107.5
Neil Smith .....	104.5
Jim Jeffcoat .....	102.5
William Fuller .....	100.5
Charles Haley .....	100.5
Andre Tippett .....	100.0
TRACE ARMSTRONG .....	99.0
Jacob Green .....	97.5
Dexter Manley .....	97.5
Simon Fletcher .....	97.5
Steve McMichael .....	95.0
Henry Thomas .....	93.5
Ken Harvey .....	89.0
ROBERT PORCHER .....	85.5
MICHAEL STRAHAN .....	84.5
Howie Long .....	84.0
Leonard Marshall .....	83.5
Charles Mann .....	83.0
Lee Williams .....	82.5
Wayne Martin .....	82.5
Tim Harris .....	81.0
Karl Mecklenburg .....	79.0
Ray Childress .....	76.5
Bryce Paup .....	75.0
Mark Gastineau .....	74.0
MICHAEL SINCLAIR .....	73.5
Cornelius Bennett .....	71.5
Clay Matthews .....	69.5
MICHAEL MCCRARY .....	69.0
Freddie Joe Nunn .....	67.5
ROB BURNETT .....	67.0
Al Baker .....	65.5
Tony Bennett .....	64.5
WARREN SAPP .....	64.5
KEVIN CARTER .....	64.5
CHAD BROWN .....	64.0
Jeff Bryant .....	63.0



# NFL DRAFT 2002



BY BRIAN STEVENSON  
STEVENSON'S DRAFT NOTEBOOK

If you're looking for Rookie-of-the-Year candidates, expect Jeremy Shockey





# Sudden Impact

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TOMASSO DEROSA

**T** HE NAMES SHOCKEY, BRYANT, GREEN AND FOSTER SHOULD SOON BE ON THE LIPS OF EVERY NFL FAN. THE RUNNING

back position is probably the easiest position to contribute from as an NFL rookie, and William Green in Cleveland, DeShaun Foster in Carolina and Luke Staley in Detroit will have a chance to prove that this season, as each should have a chance to prove their worth. Green and Foster are expected to be feature backs and should have busy seasons. The dark horse is Staley. If the former BYU Cougar can stay healthy, he is an excellent fit for the West Coast offense and should thrive as a runner and receiver with the Lions.

At wide receiver, keep an eye on Donte' Stallworth in New Orleans, Jabar Gaffney in Houston and Antonio Bryant in Dallas. Stallworth and Gaffney will be "go-to" receivers and should put up big numbers. Once considered a top 10 talent, look for Bryant to come in with a chip on his shoulder looking to prove the critics wrong. At tight end, Jeremy Shockey is a tremendous receiver and should put up impressive stats with the New York Giants.

Although it's much more difficult to make a significant impact on defense due to the complex schemes now being used by NFL teams, great players can still rise above in their first seasons. Look for the following five defenders to stand out: Roy Williams in Dallas, Wendell Bryant and Dennis Johnson in Arizona, Julius Peppers at Carolina and Quentin Jammer with the Chargers.

Many times, offensive linemen quietly make the greatest impact as rookies. Keep an eye on the following players expected to be first-year starters: Mike Williams (Buffalo), Bryant McKinnie (Minnesota), Kendall Simmons (Pittsburgh), Marc Colombo (Chicago), Mike Pearson (Jacksonville), LeCharles Bentley (New Orleans) and Tونی Fonoti (San Diego).

If you're looking for Rookie-of-the-Year candidates, expect Shockey to have the biggest impact on offense and Wendell Bryant on defense.

As for which teams were the big winners and losers in NFL Draft 2002, here's a club-by-club analysis:

to have the biggest impact on offense and Wendell Bryant on defense.



## AFC EAST

## BUFFALO BILLS

After negotiating for weeks, it finally became clear that the Drew Bledsoe trade was imminent. With their eyes set on improving Bledsoe's supporting cast, the Bills selected OT Mike Williams and WR Josh Reed. Coy Wire played linebacker in college, but will make the transition to safety in Buffalo. Other selections with potential to make the final roster are DT Justin Bannan and CB Kevin Thomas. The addition of Bledsoe brings instant respectability to the Bills' offense and comes at a fair price of next year's No. 1. **GRADE: C+**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	MIKE WILLIAMS	OT	TEXAS
2	JOSH REED	WR	LSU
2	RYAN DENNEY	DE	BYU
3	CORY WIRE	SS	STANFORD
5	JUSTIN BANNAN	DT	COLORADO
6	KEVIN THOMAS	CB	UNLV
7	MIKE PUCILLO	G	AUBURN
7	RODNEY WRIGHT	WR	FRESNO STATE
7	JARRETT FERGUSON	FB	VIRGINIA TECH
7	DOMINIQUE STEVENSON	ILB	TENNESSEE



MIKE WILLIAMS

## MIAMI DOLPHINS

After trading away their first- and second-round selections for RB Ricky Williams and LB Morlon Greenwood, Miami had to wait until the third round to finally make its first selection. Seth McKinney is a solid technician at center. TE Randy McMichael brings a much-needed, down-the-field receiving threat in offensive coordinator Norv Turner's offense. Versatile Omare Lowe will be a valued backup in the secondary. **GRADE: B**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
3	SETH MCKINNEY	C	TEXAS A&M
4	RANDY MCMICHAEL	TE	GEORGIA
5	OMARE LOWE	CB	WASHINGTON
5	SAM SIMMONS	WR	NORTHWESTERN
7	LEONARD HENRY	RB	EAST CAROLINA

## NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Despite signing TEs Cam Cleeland and Christian Fauria in free agency, New England continued to focus on the position by moving up in Round One to select Dan Graham. Graham will make an immediate impact and bring back memories of Ben Coates. WR Deion Branch will see most of his playing time returning kicks. Rohan Davey will have an opportunity to develop his technique behind Tom Brady. Jarvis Green brings youth to an aging group of DEs. Antwoine Womack is a talented back, but will spend his rookie season on IR recovering from injuries sustained in his last season at Virginia. **GRADE: C-**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	DANIEL GRAHAM	TE	COLORADO
2	DEION BRANCH	WR	LOUISVILLE
4	ROHAN DAVEY	QB	LSU
4	JARVIS GREEN	DE	LSU
7	ANTWOINE WOMACK	RB	VIRGINIA
7	DAVID GIVENS	WR	NOTRE DAME

## NEW YORK JETS

In one of the surprises of Round One, the Jets passed on CB Lito Sheppard, S Edward Reed and CB Mike Rumph to select DE Bryan Thomas. The defense struggled last season when John Abraham went down with injury, and the team is clearly looking to add insurance against that happening again. S Jon McGraw fills a position of longtime need. Again, in the third, the Jets passed on need, DT Dorsett Davis, and selected TE Chris Baker to back up Anthony Becht. **GRADE: C-**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	BRYAN THOMAS	DE	UAB
2	JON MCGRAW	FS	KANSAS STATE
3	CHRIS BAKER	TE	MICHIGAN STATE
4	ALAN HARPER	DT	FRESNO STATE
5	JONATHAN GOODWIN	G	MICHIGAN

## AFC NORTH

## BALTIMORE RAVENS

After the salary cap absolutely destroyed the Ravens' roster, Baltimore began rebuilding with the selections of S Edward Reed and DT Anthony Weaver. Although Day Two for the Ravens included K Dave Zastudil, WR Ron Johnson, TE Terry Jones, and RB Chester Taylor, Baltimore did little to upgrade the holes on defense. Finding a cornerback to play opposite Chris McAlister must be addressed before the start of the season. **GRADE: C**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	EDWARD REED	FS	MIAMI (FLA.)
2	ANTHONY WEAVER	DT	NOTRE DAME
4	DAVE ZASTUDIL	P	OHIO
4	RON JOHNSON	WR	MINNESOTA
5	TERRY JONES	TE	ALABAMA
6	LAMONT BRIGHTFUL	WR	EASTERN WASHINGTON
6	JAVIN HUNTER	WR	NOTRE DAME
6	CHESTER TAYLOR	RB	TOLEDO
6	CHAD WILLIAMS	SS	SOUTHERN MISS
7	WES PATE	QB	STEPHEN F. AUSTIN

## CINCINNATI BENGALS

When the two left tackles on your roster are age 35 (Richmond Webb) and 37 (John Jackson), it is time to add youth, and Levi Jones does just that. Lamont Thompson was one of the most productive and underrated DBs in the draft. TE Matt Schobel, K Travis Dorsch, S Marquand Manuel and DE Joey Evans are all solid selections who have a decent chance of making the final roster. The ongoing question remains, though, who will quarterback the Bengals to the next level? **GRADE: B-**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	LEVI JONES	OT	ARIZONA STATE
2	LAMONT THOMPSON	FS	WASHINGTON STATE
3	MATT SCHOBEL	TE	TCU
4	TRAVIS DORSCH	K	PURDUE
6	MARQUAND MANUEL	SS	FLORIDA
7	JOEY EVANS	DE	NORTH CAROLINA

## CLEVELAND BROWNS

Cleveland addressed their primary need with the selection of RB William Green. Andre Davis is a burner WR outside who will stretch opposing defenses. Kevin Bentley, Ben Taylor and Andra Davis all should make the team and upgrade linebacker depth. Melvin Fowler and Joaquin Gonzalez will provide quality depth along the OL. Darnell Sanders is a solid, all-purpose TE with the potential to eventually start down the road. An outstanding draft with all eight selections expected to make the final roster. **GRADE: B+**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	WILLIAM GREEN	RB	BOSTON COLLEGE
2	ANDRE DAVIS	WR	VIRGINIA TECH
3	MELVIN FOWLER	C	MARYLAND
4	KEVIN BENTLEY	OLB	NORTHWESTERN
4	BEN TAYLOR	ILB	VIRGINIA TECH
4	DARNELL SANDERS	TE	OHIO STATE
5	ANDRA DAVIS	ILB	FLORIDA
7	JOAQUIN GONZALEZ	OT	MIAMI (FLA.)

## PITTSBURGH STEELERS

With a solid roster already in place, Pittsburgh had the luxury of selecting the "best player available" throughout. Late in the first round, the Steelers did just that with the selection of Kendall Simmons. Simmons is a dominating lineman who is expected to start at RG as a rookie. In Round Two, the Steelers selected "Slash II," Antwaan Randle El, a standout college quarterback and return man who is expected to play receiver in Pittsburgh. Chris Hope was added in the third round and should eventually replace FS Brent Alexander. Others worth noting are LB Larry Foote, RB Verron Haynes and WR Lee Mays. **GRADE: C**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	KENDALL SIMMONS	OT	AUBURN
2	ANTWAAN RANDLE EL	WR	INDIANA
3	CHRIS HOPE	FS	FLORIDA STATE
4	LARRY FOOTE	OLB	MICHIGAN
5	VERNON HAYNES	RB	GEORGIA
6	LEE MAYS	WR	UTEP
7	LAVAR GLOVER	CB	CINCINNATI
7	BRETT KEISEL	DE	BYU



## AFC SOUTH



DAVID CARR

### HOUSTON TEXANS

There was never any doubt that the No. 1 overall selection for the Texans would be David Carr. Carr is a franchise-caliber quarterback who, despite going to an expansion team, will have the luxury of working with a solid supporting cast. WR Jabar Gaffney, OG Fred Weary, RB Jonathan Wells, FB Jarrod Baxter and S Ramon Walker were solid selections, but the team reached badly in the second in selecting OG Chester Pitts over RB Clinton Portis of Miami. **GRADE: C+**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	DAVID CARR	QB	FRESNO STATE
2	JABAR GAFFNEY	WR	FLORIDA
2	CHESTER PITTS	OT	SAN DIEGO STATE
3	FRED WEARY	C	TENNESSEE
3	CHARLES HILL	DT	MARYLAND
4	JONATHAN WELLS	RB	OHIO STATE
5	JARROD BAXTER	FB	NEW MEXICO
5	RAMON WALKER	FS	PITTSBURGH
6	DEMARCUS FAGGINS	CB	KANSAS STATE
6	HOWARD GREEN	DT	LSU
7	GREG WHITE	DE	MINNESOTA
7	AHMAD MILLER	DT	UNLV

### INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

Knowing they must improve a porous defense, Indianapolis used its first six selections on that side of the ball. DE Dwight Freeney and DT Larry Tripplett were added early on and should contribute significantly as rookies. Joseph Jefferson is expected to play in nickel and dime coverages as a rookie. David Thornton brings speed and range to the linebacker position. Tony Dungy's defenses have always had speed and quickness, and this draft clearly reflects a move in that direction. **GRADE: B-**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	DWIGHT FREENEY	DE	SYRACUSE
2	LARRY TRIPPLETT	DT	WASHINGTON
3	JOSEPH JEFFERSON	CB	WESTERN KENTUCKY
4	DAVID THORNTON	OLB	NORTH CAROLINA
6	DAVID PUGH	DT	VIRGINIA TECH
6	JAMES LEWIS	SS	MIAMI (FLA.)
6	BRIAN ALLEN	RB	STANFORD
7	JOSHUA MALLARD	DE	GEORGIA

## JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

Jacksonville could not have hoped for anything better than DT John Henderson and OT Mike Pearson in the first two rounds. Early in the season, both were considered high first-round talents, and both should start for the Jaguars this season. Akin Ayodele is a "tweener" who excels at getting after the quarterback. David Garrard is a talented quarterback who must add consistency. **GRADE: C**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	JOHN HENDERSON	DT	TENNESSEE
2	MIKE PEARSON	OT	FLORIDA
3	AKINOLA AYODELE	OLB	PURDUE
4	DAVID GARRARD	QB	EAST CAROLINA
4	CHRIS LUZAR	TE	VIRGINIA
6	CLENTON BALLARD	DT	SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE
7	KENDALL NEWSON	WR	MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE
7	STEVE SMITH	SS	OREGON
7	HAYDEN EPSTEIN	K	MICHIGAN

### TENNESSEE TITANS

After losing Jason Fisk and Josh Evans this offseason, Tennessee hoped to be able to select one of the top DTs in the first round. Fortunately, Albert Haynesworth was still available at No. 15 overall and the need was filled. The Titans also did an outstanding job in the middle rounds with the selections of S Tank Williams, LB Rocky Calmus, CB Mike Echols, CB Tony Beckham and LB Rocky Boiman. All should contribute as rookies. **GRADE: B+**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	ALBERT HAYNESWORTH	DT	TENNESSEE
2	TANK WILLIAMS	FS	STANFORD
3	ROCKY CALMUS	OLB	OKLAHOMA
4	MIKE ECHOLS	CB	WISCONSIN
4	TONY BECKHAM	CB	WISCONSIN-STOUT
4	ROCKY BOIMAN	OLB	NOTRE DAME
5	JAKE SCHIFINO	WR	AKRON
6	JUSTIN HARTWIG	G	KANSAS STATE
7	DARRELL HILL	WR	NORTHERN ILLINOIS
7	CARLOS HALL	DE	ARKANSAS

## AFC WEST

### DENVER BRONCOS

Denver has been trying for years to add speed and youth at receiver, and the team finally did just that with the selection of Ashley Lelie. Clinton Portis was an outstanding selection and it would not be a surprise to see Portis become the team's feature back by year-end. DT Dorsett Davis offers outstanding potential. **GRADE: C+**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	ASHLEY LELIE	WR	HAWAII
2	CLINTON PORTIS	RB	MIAMI (FLA.)
3	DORSETT DAVIS	DT	MISSISSIPPI STATE
5	SAM BRANDON	FS	UNLV
5	HERB HAYGOOD	WR	MICHIGAN STATE
6	JEB PUTZIER	TE	BOISE STATE
7	CHRIS YOUNG	SS	GEORGIA TECH
7	MONSANTO POPE	DT	VIRGINIA

### KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

After filling their need at receiver in free agency, Kansas City looked to upgrade at DT,

and the Chiefs did so with Ryan Sims and Eddie Freeman. In a controversial trade, the Chiefs were able to trade with the Cowboys to jump ahead of the Vikings and select Sims. Second-day selections included RB Omar Easy, LB Scott Fujita and LB Maurice Rodriguez. This has the look of a two-player draft. **GRADE: C**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	RYAN SIMS	DT	NORTH CAROLINA
2	EDDIE FREEMAN	DT	UAB
4	OMAR EASY	RB	PENN STATE
5	SCOTT FUJITA	OLB	CALIFORNIA
7	MAURICE RODRIGUEZ	OLB	FRESNO STATE

### OAKLAND RAIDERS

Oakland was set to rebuild after obtaining additional selections from Tampa Bay for coach Jon Gruden. In what was the best value in Round One, Phillip Buchanon was selected at No. 17 overall. Buchanon may have been the best pure cover corner in this draft and also offers tremendous return skills. Napoleon Harris was the draft's best linebacker. OT Langston Walker, TE Doug Jolley and DE Kenyon Coleman are solid prospects who will provide quality depth. **GRADE: B+**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	PHILLIP BUCHANON	CB	MIAMI (FLA.)
1	NAPOLEON HARRIS	OLB	NORTHWESTERN
2	LANGSTON WALKER	OT	CALIFORNIA
2	DOUG JOLLEY	TE	BYU
5	KENYON COLEMAN	DE	UCLA
6	KEVIN NASH	SS	ALBANY STATE
6	LARRY NED	RB	SAN DIEGO STATE
7	RONALD CURRY	QB	NORTH CAROLINA

### SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

In a bit of a surprise, San Diego passed on their needs along the OL to select CB Quentin Jammer. Tionu Fonoti is an absolute mauler who will upgrade the team's running game. Reche Caldwell and Terry Charles provide quality depth at receiver. Ben Leber eases the free-agency loss of Gerald Dixon. **GRADE: C+**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	QUENTIN JAMMER	CB	TEXAS
2	TONIU FONOTI	G	NEBRASKA
2	RECHE CALDWELL	WR	FLORIDA
3	BEN LEBER	OLB	KANSAS STATE
4	JUSTIN PEELE	TE	OREGON
5	TERRY CHARLES	WR	PORTLAND STATE
6	MATT ANDERLE	OT	MINNESOTA
7	SETH BURFORD	CB	CAL POLY SAN LUIS OBISPO

## NFC EAST

### DALLAS COWBOYS

After years of struggle, owner Jerry Jones finally came through with a tremendous draft. S Roy Williams was the best defensive player in college football last season. OG Andre Gurode is a dominating run blocker. WR Antonio Bryant and CB Derek Ross provide exceptional value and future starting potential. Look for Bryant to come in with a chip on his shoulder looking to prove the critics wrong. The best draft of 2002. **GRADE: A**



RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	ROY WILLIAMS	SS	OKLAHOMA
2	ANDRE GURDIE	G	COLORADO
2	ANTONIO BRYANT	WR	PITTSBURGH
3	DEREK ROSS	CB	OHIO STATE
4	JAMAR MARTIN	FB	OHIO STATE
5	PETE HUNTER	CB	VIRGINIA UNION
6	TYSON WALTER	OT	OHIO STATE
6	DEVEREN JOHNSON	WR	SACRED HEART
6	BOB SLOWIKOWSKI	TE	VIRGINIA TECH

## NEW YORK GIANTS

The Giants got the player they coveted in TE **Jeremy Shockey**. The Giants have lacked productivity at tight end since the days of Mark Bavaro, and Shockey should quickly become Kerry Collins' favorite target. **Tim Carter** is a burner to stretch opposing defenses. **Nick Greisen** and **Quincy Monk** will upgrade the depth at linebacker. C **Jeff Hatch** was a reach in Round Three. **GRADE: C+**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	JEREMY SHOCKEY	TE	MIAMI (FLA.)
2	TIM CARTER	WR	AUBURN
3	JEFF HATCH	C	PENNSYLVANIA
5	NICK GREISEN	ILB	WISCONSIN
6	WESLEY MALLARD	SS	OREGON
7	DARYL JONES	WR	MIAMI (FLA.)
7	QUINCY MONK	OLB	NORTH CAROLINA

## PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

In a bit of a surprise, Philadelphia selected CB **Lito Sheppard**, S **Michael Lewis** and CB **Sheldon Brown** in the first two rounds, upgrading an already-strong Eagles secondary. Versatile **Brian Westbrook** has the look of a third-down back. C **Scott Peters** could start as a rookie. WR **Freddie Milons**, LB **Tyreo Harrison** and DE **Raheem Brock** have the potential to make the final roster. **GRADE: B**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	LITO SHEPPARD	CB	FLORIDA
2	MICHAEL LEWIS	SS	COLORADO
2	SHELDON BROWN	CB	SOUTH CAROLINA
3	BRIAN WESTBROOK	RB	VILLANOVA
4	SCOTT PETERS	C	ARIZONA STATE
5	FREDDIE MILONS	WR	ALABAMA
6	TYREO HARRISON	ILB	NOTRE DAME
7	RAHEEM BROCK	DE	TEMPLE

## WASHINGTON REDSKINS

With his outstanding arm and passing-game experience, it will not take long for **Patrick Ramsey** to be named the Redskins' starting quarterback. RB **Ladell Betts** was a reach in the second round, but will serve as a solid backup. **Rashad Bauman** adds depth at cornerback and WR **Clifford Russell** brings tremendous speed outside. CB **Andre Lott**, TE **Robert Royal** and OT **Reggie Coleman** should also earn roster spots. **GRADE: B**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	PATRICK RAMSEY	QB	TULANE
2	LADELL BETTS	RB	IOWA
3	RASHAD BAUMAN	CB	OREGON
3	CLIFFORD RUSSELL	WR	UTAH
5	ANDRE LOTT	CB	TENNESSEE
5	ROBERT ROYAL	TE	LSU
6	REGGIE COLEMAN	OT	TENNESSEE

7	JEFF GRAU	TE	UCLA
7	GREGORY SCOTT	DE	HAMPTON
7	ROCK CARTWRIGHT	RB	KANSAS STATE

## NFC NORTH

## CHICAGO BEARS

After releasing Blake Brockermeier in a cap-related move, Chicago selected **Marc Colombo** as his replacement at LT. **Roosevelt Williams** was selected to replace CB **Walt Harris**. In a mild surprise, OG **Terrance Metcalf** was selected over SEC sack artist **Dennis Johnson**, but the Bears finally addressed their need for a pass rusher with the addition of **Alex Brown** in the fourth round. Brown is a one-dimensional pass rusher at this stage, but if properly coached and motivated, he could become an every-down player. Colombo was an outstanding selection, but the Bears would have done much better to help themselves at DE, CB and TE. **GRADE: C**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	MARC COLOMBO	OT	BOSTON COLLEGE
3	ROOSEVELT WILLIAMS	CB	TUSKEGEE
3	TERRANCE METCALF	G	MISSISSIPPI
4	ALEX BROWN	DE	FLORIDA
5	BOBBY GRAY	SS	LOUISIANA TECH
5	BRYAN KNIGHT	DE	PITTSBURGH
6	ADRIAN PETERSON	RB	GEORGIA SOUTHERN
6	JAMIN ELLIOTT	WR	DELAWARE
6	BRYAN FLETCHER	TE	UCLA

## DETROIT LIONS

While most thought Detroit would select **Quentin Jammer** or trade down, they surprised everyone by taking QB **Joey Harrington**. Harrington should start immediately and bring leadership, consistency and play-making ability. Early in the 2001 college season, **Kalimba Edwards** was considered a premier pass rusher and a top 10 talent. Edwards will replace RDE **Tracy Scroggins**. **Andre Goodman** softens the loss of CB **Bryant Westbrook**. RB **Luke Staley** and OT **Victor Rogers** slid due to durability concerns but, when healthy, both are outstanding talents and offer excellent value in Round Seven. **GRADE: B-**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	JOEY HARRINGTON	QB	OREGON
2	KALIMBA EDWARDS	DE	SOUTH CAROLINA
3	ANDRE GOODMAN	CB	SOUTH CAROLINA
4	JOHN TAYLOR	DE	MONTANA STATE
5	JOHN OWENS	TE	NOTRE DAME
6	CHRISTOPHER CASH	CB	USC
7	LUKE STALEY	RB	BYU
7	MATT MURPHY	TE	MARYLAND
7	VICTOR ROGERS	G	COLORADO

## GREEN BAY PACKERS

Green Bay traded up eight slots in the first round to select **Javon Walker** to fill the need at receiver after losing **Antonio Freeman**, **Bill Schroeder** and **Corey Bradford** this past off-season. The Packers gave up too much, a second-rounder, considering the depth and talent at receiver in this draft. The only other notable

selections for the Packers were S **Marques Anderson** and RB **Najeh Davenport**. Three quality players were added, but little was done to address needs at DT and LB. **GRADE: C-**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	JAVON WALKER	WR	FLORIDA STATE
3	MARQUES ANDERSON	SS	UCLA
4	NAJEH DAVENPORT	FB	MIAMI (FLA.)
5	AARON KAMPAN	DT	IOWA
5	CRAIG NALL	QB	NORTHWESTERN STATE
6	MIKE HOUGHTON	G	SAN DIEGO STATE



## MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Minnesota entered the draft looking to upgrade one of the league's worst defenses and add a starting LT. In one of the more bizarre moments in recent draft history, the Vikings intended to select **Ryan Sims**, but the league ruled that a trade between Dallas and Kansas City was completed before the Vikings had their selection to the podium. In what probably turns out to be a better move, the Vikings selected OT **Bryant McKinnie**. **Raonall Smith** was selected to replace OLB **Ed McDaniel**, and DBs **Willie Oford** and **Brian Williams** replace **Robert Griffith** and **Orlando Thomas**. **Edward Ta'amu** is a mauler who will eventually start at guard. Look for as many as five starters to come from this draft. **GRADE: C+**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	BRYANT MCKINNIE	OT	MIAMI (FLA.)
2	RAONALL SMITH	OLB	WASHINGTON STATE
3	WILLIE OFFORD	SS	SOUTH CAROLINA
4	BRIAN WILLIAMS	CB	NORTH CAROLINA STATE
4	EDWARD TA'AMU	G	UTAH
6	NICK ROGERS	OLB	GEORGIA TECH
7	CHAD BEASLEY	DT	VIRGINIA TECH

## NFC SOUTH

## ATLANTA FALCONS

In the biggest surprise of Round One, the Falcons selected **T.J. Duckett**, signaling the end of **Jamal Anderson's** days in Atlanta. What made the selection surprising was the recent addition of **Warrick Dunn** and the team's most urgent need at receiver. **Will Overstreet** is a



"tweener" who should help as a pass rusher. The team waited until the sixth before finally selecting a receiver, **Kahlil Hill**. Others expected to make the roster are OG **Martin Bibla** and QB **Kurt Kittner**. The inability to upgrade at receiver significantly lowers the draft grade. **GRADE: D**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	T.J. DUCKETT	RB	MICHIGAN STATE
3	WILL OVERSTREET	DE	TENNESSEE
4	MARTIN BIBLA	G	MIAMI (FLA.)
5	KEVIN MCCADAM	SS	VIRGINIA TECH
6	KURT KITTNER	QB	ILLINOIS
7	KAHLIL HILL	WR	IOWA
7	MICHAEL COLEMAN	WR	WIDENER
7	KEVIN SHAFER	OT	TULSA

## CAROLINA PANTHERS

Carolina filled needs with the selections of DE **Julius Peppers** and RB **DeShaun Foster**. Both are expected to start and contribute immediately. Other selections likely to make the team are LB **Will Witherspoon**, CB **Dante Wesley**, QB **Randy Fasani**, FB **Kyle Johnson** and TE **Keith Heinrich**. Overall, a solid draft from start to finish, filling needs with value. **GRADE: C**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	JULIUS PEPPERS	DE	NORTH CAROLINA
2	DESHAUN FOSTER	RB	UCLA
3	WILL WITHERSPOON	OLB	GEORGIA
4	DANTE WESLEY	CB	ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF
5	RANDY FASANI	QB	STANFORD
5	KYLE JOHNSON	FB	SYRACUSE
6	KEITH HEINRICH	TE	SAM HOUSTON STATE
7	PETE CAMPION	G	NORTH DAKOTA STATE
7	BRAD FRANKLIN	CB	LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE



## NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

New Orleans could not have asked for the draft to fall any better with selections like **Donte' Stallworth**, **Charles Grant** and **LeCharles Bentley**. Grant will replace DE **Joe Johnson** and **C Bentley** will replace **Chris Naeole**. **James Allen** will compete with RLB **Darrin Smith**. CB **Keyuo Craver**, once considered a late first-round talent, slid to Round Four and could be a steal with added consistency.

S **Mel Mitchell** will contribute on special teams. **GRADE: B+**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	DONTE' STALLWORTH	WR	TENNESSEE
1	CHARLES GRANT	DE	GEORGIA
2	LECHARLES BENTLEY	C	OHIO STATE
3	JAMES ALLEN	OLB	OREGON STATE
4	KEYUO CRAVER	CB	NEBRASKA
5	MEL MITCHELL	FS	WESTERN KENTUCKY
6	J.T. O'SULLIVAN	QB	CALIFORNIA-DAVIS
6	JOHN GILMORE	TE	PENN STATE
7	DERRIUS MONROE	DE	VIRGINIA TECH

## TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

After mortgaging multiple drafts for the rights to new coach **Jon Gruden**, Tampa Bay finally made their first selection in the third round. WR **Marquise Walker** is coming off an outstanding season for the Michigan, but questions remain regarding his speed and ability to separate versus NFL cornerbacks. The only other draft choices of note are RB **Travis Stephens** and S **Jermaine Phillips**. **GRADE: D**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
3	MARQUISE WALKER	WR	MICHIGAN
4	TRAVIS STEPHENS	RB	TENNESSEE
5	JERMAINE PHILLIPS	FS	GEORGIA
6	JOHN STAMPER	DE	SOUTH CAROLINA
7	TIM WANSLEY	CB	GEORGIA
7	TRACEY WISTROM	TE	NEBRASKA
7	AARON LOCKETT	WR	KANSAS STATE
7	ZACK QUACIA	C	STANFORD

## NFC WEST

### ARIZONA CARDINALS

The primary need in Arizona was to upgrade the defensive line, and that was done with the additions of DT **Wendell Bryant**, DE **Dennis Johnson** and DT **Nate Dwyer**. LB **Levar Fisher** is a playmaker with sideline-to-sideline range who will push Rob Fredrickson for playing time. QB **Josh McCown** shows above-average athletic ability, but was a reach in the third round. Look for RB **Josh Scobey** to press incumbent **Thomas Jones**. The only disappointing side of this draft was the team's inability to upgrade at cornerback after losing **Corey Chavous** and **Tom Knight** in free agency. **GRADE: B**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	WENDELL BRYANT	DT	WISCONSIN
2	LEVAR FISHER	OLB	N.C. STATE
3	JOSHUA MCCOWN	QB	SAM HOUSTON STATE
3	DENNIS JOHNSON	DE	KENTUCKY
4	NATE DWYER	DT	KANSAS
5	JASON MCADDLEY	WR	ALABAMA
6	JOSH SCOBEY	RB	KANSAS STATE
7	MIKE BANKS	TE	IOWA STATE

## ST. LOUIS RAMS

It is difficult to argue with the Rams' previous successes, but theirs had to be one of the worst drafts of 2002. Although a solid player, LB **Robert Thomas** was a reach at the end of Round One, a player who could have been selected 10-15 slots later. CB **Travis Fisher**

was another reach in the second. RB **Lamar Gordon** is a solid prospect, but when will he get playing time behind **Marshall Faulk** and **Trung Canidate**? **Eric Crouch** is an outstanding athlete, but it will be a major project to turn the former quarterback into a receiver. The only other notable draft choice was LB **Courtland Bullard**. Too many reaches here, and nothing was done to address the team's most urgent need at RT following the free-agency losses of **Ryan Tucker** and **Rod Jones**. **GRADE: D**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	ROBERT THOMAS	OLB	UCLA
2	TRAVIS FISHER	CB	CENTRAL FLORIDA
3	LAMAR GORDON	RB	NORTH DAKOTA STATE
3	ERIC CROUCH	WR	NEBRASKA
4	TRAVIS SCOTT	G	ARIZONA STATE
5	COURTLAND BULLARD	OLB	OHIO STATE
6	STEVE BELLISARI	QB	OHIO STATE
7	CHRIS MASSEY	C	MARSHALL

## SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

San Francisco continued to upgrade on defense with the selections of CB **Mike Rumph**, LB **Saleem Rasheed** and S **Kevin Curtis**. K **Jeff Chandler** will replace **Jose Cortez**. OG **Eric Heitmann** and OT **Kyle Kosier** will provide quality depth on the line. The 49ers got quality players at positions of need. **GRADE: B**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	MIKE RUMPH	CB	MIAMI (FLA.)
2	SALEEM RASHEED	ILB	ALABAMA
4	JEFF CHANDLER	K	FLORIDA
4	KEVIN CURTIS	FS	TEXAS TECH
5	BRANDON DOMAN	QB	BYU
5	JOSH SHAW	DT	MICHIGAN STATE
6	MARK ANELLI	TE	WISCONSIN
7	ERIC HEITMANN	G	STANFORD
7	KYLE KOSIER	OT	ARIZONA STATE
7	TEDDY GAINES	CB	TENNESSEE

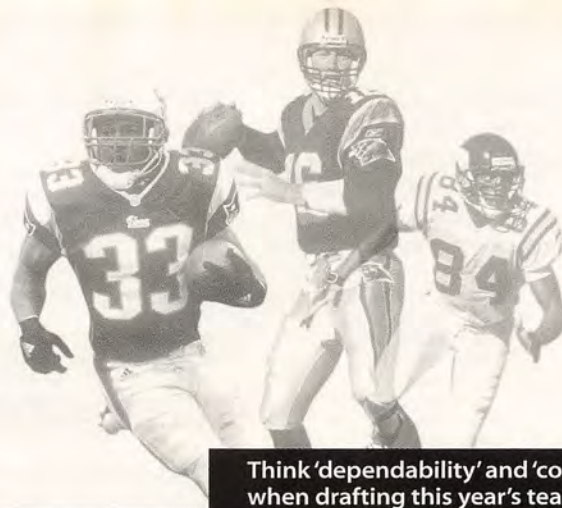
## SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

One of the first-round surprises was **Mike Holmgren's** decision to trade down and miss out on the opportunity to select one of the top TEs. With **Shockey** and **Graham** off the board, **Holmgren** was forced to select **Jerramy Stevens**. **Stevens** played at an All-America level as a sophomore, but missed significant playing time as a junior and brings off-the-field baggage. If **Stevens** can stay focused, Seattle will have filled its most urgent need on offense. RB **Maurice Morris**, DE **Anton Palepoi** and CB **Kris Richard** were all reaches. Others with a solid chance to make the team are S **Terreal Bierria** and DE **Rocky Bernard**. **GRADE: C-**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE
1	JERRAMY STEVENS	TE	WASHINGTON
2	MAURICE MORRIS	RB	OREGON
2	ANTON PALEPOI	DE	UNLV
3	KRIS RICHARD	CB	USC
4	TERREAL BIERRIA	FS	GEORGIA
5	ROCKY BERNARD	DT	TEXAS A&M
5	RYAN HANNAM	TE	NORTHERN IOWA
5	MATT HILL	OT	BOISE STATE
6	CRAIG JARRETT	P	MICHIGAN STATE
7	JEFF KELLY	QB	SOUTHERN MISS



# FANTASY REPORT



Think 'dependability' and 'consistency' when drafting this year's team.

By Les Kovach

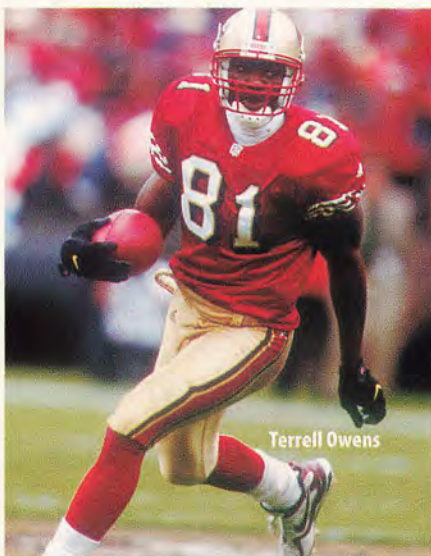
**O**K, it takes luck to win a fantasy league. Anyone who tells you different just won his league. But luck alone won't win you a championship—you have to be ready for it.

The Super Bowl champion New England Patriots may have felt a little lucky to escape with a win over the Oakland Raiders in the AFC Championship Game but, they'll tell you, good teams make their own luck. The point is, in order to benefit from good luck, teams have to be good.

## A reliable fantasy player is a good fantasy player

NFL wonks say it all the time: "It's a marathon, not a sprint." This cliché is good advice for fantasy owners, too, unless you participate in an end-of-the-year, total-points league. In leagues with weekly head-to-head schedules, dependable, not explosive, fantasy players put you in position to win each week.

The most reliable fantasy players are typically those who touch the ball the most: running backs and quarterbacks. Particularly



Terrell Owens

in yardage leagues, these guys, not wide receivers, are more likely to get you points week-in and week-out. Consider the performances of some of last year's top players when drafting your lineup.

## Receivers don't always carry the load

Running backs Marshall Faulk and Shaun Alexander both scored at least once in 11 games (Faulk played in 14 and Alexander started 12). Curtis Martin had 20 touches for 75 total yards or better in 13 games (he totaled 55 for 187 in the other three). And Ahman Green had at least 100 total yards in 12 games (he had 99 in another).

Similarly, quarterback Kurt Warner threw for more than 200 yards in all but one game; Jeff Garcia completed a touchdown in all 16 games; and Brett Favre threw at least 15 completions in every game and one touchdown in 15.

On the other hand, vaunted receivers Marvin Harrison, Terrell Owens and Randy Moss were less consistent. Harrison was kept

out of the end zone in seven games, Owens was held under 75 yards seven times, and Moss caught four or fewer passes for under 50 yards seven times and went scoreless in nine games.

## The salary cap cuts veterans deepest

The NFL salary cap makes it impossible for teams to keep all of their veterans. A number of potential impact players remain unsigned, or face late-spring cuts.

Future Hall-of-Famers and current free agents Ricky Watters and Cris Carter can be top 25 fantasy players with the right teams. Aging stars like receivers Antonio Freeman and Keenan McCardell and running back Jamal Anderson will likely find plenty of teams willing to take a chance on them if they're released, as suspected. And in the constant scramble to find a starting quarterback in the NFL, it may not be long before Jeff Blake is starting in Baltimore.

Play the free-agent wire as smartly as the Patriots did in 2001 and it can pay off for your fantasy team as well.



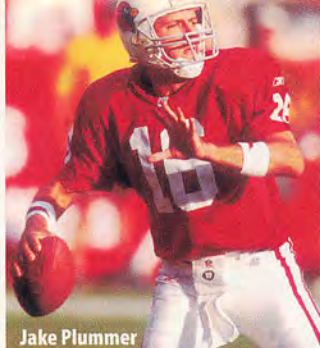
Kurt Warner



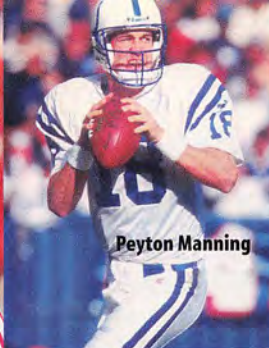
Jamal Anderson

LEFT TO RIGHT: TOMASSO DEROSA; STEVE BEYER (2); TOP OF PAGE LEFT TO RIGHT: STEVE BEYER (2); TOMASSO DEROSA





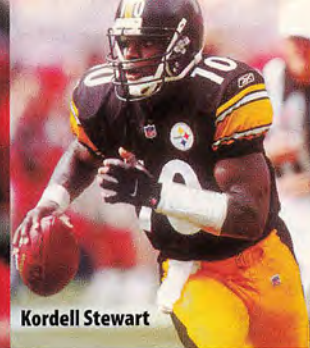
Jake Plummer



Peyton Manning



Jeff Garcia



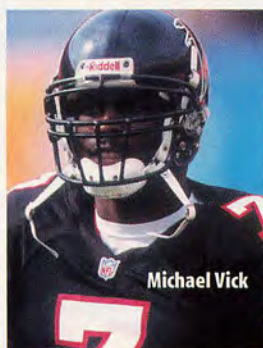
Kordell Stewart

## Quarterbacks

Player	Team	
1 Kurt Warner	STL	Threw three or more touchdown passes in 20 of 42 starts and at least one in 39 for Rams.
2 Jeff Garcia	SF	Leads the NFL with 63 touchdowns in two years; No. 3 during that period with 7,800 passing yards.
3 Peyton Manning	IND	111 touchdowns and nearly 16,500 yards are the most in the league over last four years.
4 Brett Favre	GB	Has not missed a start in nine years. Averaged 4,000 yards and 30 TDs in last eight seasons.
5 Rich Gannon	OAK	Veteran leader is safe bet for 3,500 yards and 25 TDs. Has started 48 consecutive games.
6 Donovan McNabb	PHI	Continues to improve as a passer. 54 TDs (eight rushing) and 7,700 total yards in two years.
7 Aaron Brooks	NO	Offensive linchpin has thrown for 4,159 yards and 33 touchdowns in 21 career starts.
8 Brian Griese	DEN	Durability may be the only question about his play, but it's a big question.
9 Trent Green	KC	Gained confidence later in the year, throwing for 3,700 yards. Upgrade for Chiefs at WR is big plus.
10 Daunte Culpepper	MIN	Offense is in shambles, but still had 19 TDs (five rushing) and 3,000 total yards in 2001.
11 Tom Brady	NE	Super Bowl MVP and team leader has total command of offense; will only improve.
12 Drew Bledsoe	BUF	May take time to adjust, but averaged more than 20 TDs and 3,700 yards in seven full seasons.
13 Steve McNair	TEN	Set career highs in attempts (431), yards (3,350) and TDs (21); receivers are improved.
14 Mark Brunell	JAX	Virtual lock for 18-20 TDs (career high is 20) and 3,000 yards, but upside is limited.
15 Brad Johnson	TB	Smart, accurate passer will approach career highs in Gruden's system (see: Rich Gannon).
16 Jay Fiedler	MIA	

17 Kerry Collins	NYG
18 Kordell Stewart	PIT
19 Michael Vick	ATL
20 Jake Plummer	ARI
21 Trent Dilfer	SEA
22 Vinny Testaverde	NYJ
23 Tim Couch	CLE
24 Jim Miller	CHI
25 Jon Kitna	CIN
26 Drew Brees	SD
27 Patrick Ramsey*	WAS
28 Quincy Carter	DAL
29 Chris Weinke	CAR
30 David Carr*	HOU
31 Chris Redman	BAL
32 Mike McMahon	DET
33 Doug Flutie	SD
34 Kent Graham	HOU
35 Joey Harrington*	DET
36 Jeff Blake	BAL
37 Chris Chandler	CHI
38 Matt Hasselbeck	SEA
39 Todd Bouman	MIN
40 Rob Johnson	TB
41 Danny Wuerffel	WAS
42 Anthony Wright	DAL
43 Alex Van Pelt	BUF
44 Chad Pennington	NYJ
45 Rodney Peete	CAR

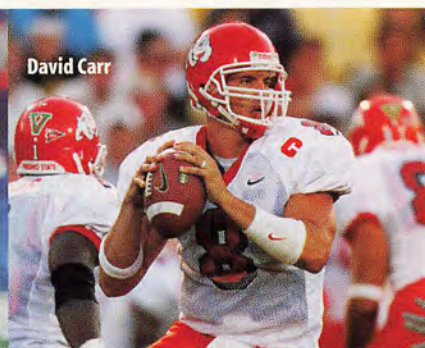
\* = Rookie / FA = Free Agent



Michael Vick



Johnnie Morton



David Carr

## Breakout players

Player	Team	
1 Deuce McAllister (RB)	NO	More dangerous than departed teammate Ricky Williams.
2 Travis Henry (RB)	BUF	Hard runner will play behind an improved offensive line.
3 Michael Vick (QB)	ATL	Has all the tools to dominate both running and passing the ball.
4 Johnnie Morton (WR)	KC	Is an excellent fit in Dick Vermeil's explosive offense.
5 Robert Ferguson (WR)	GB	Will be given every opportunity with Favre as his quarterback.

## Top rookies

Player	Team	
1 William Green (RB)	CLE	The Browns will hitch their wagon to this all-purpose back.
2 David Carr (QB)	HOU	Top overall pick and franchise player will start by Week Six.
3 Patrick Ramsey (QB)	WAS	With Spurrier's options at QB, Ramsey is likely to start Week One.
4 Jeremy Shockey (TE)	NYG	New York has the threat at TE it has wanted since Mark Bavaro.
5 Danté Stallworth (WR)	NO	Fastest receiver in the draft will stretch defenses for the Saints.



# Running backs

Player	Team	
1 Marshall Faulk	STL	Unbelievable averages of 5.4 yards/carry, 84 catches, 2,250 total yards and 20 TDs as a Ram.
2 Shaun Alexander	SEA	Dangerous combination of size and speed; averaging more than a TD a game as a starter.
3 Ahman Green	GB	3,700 total yards in two years is second only to Marshall Faulk; averaging 12 touchdowns.
4 Curtis Martin	NYJ	Seven straight seasons over 1,450 total yards; remains the Jets' first option and best weapon.
5 Corey Dillon	CIN	May be most underrated player in NFL; scoring more as offense improves around him.
6 Ricky Williams	MIA	Will continue to improve and will set career mark for scores in Norv Turner's offense.
7 Priest Holmes	KC	Free-agent surprise led NFL in rushing (1,555) and total yards (2,169), but can he repeat?
8 LaDainian Tomlinson	SD	Wore down some on 339 carries last year as a rookie, but still had 1,200 yards and 10 TDs.
9 Anthony Thomas	CHI	Rookie of the Year is perfect workhorse for Bears; stats will improve in full season.
10 Eddie George	TEN	Will regain top form after struggling early with injury. Lacked a good lead blocker in 2001.
11 Edgerrin James	IND	No back is the same in his first season after knee surgery; won't touch full-season averages.
12 Antowain Smith	NE	Dependable journeyman may have "maxed-out" his potential with 1,100 yards and 13 scores last season.
13 Garrison Hearst	SF	Made stunning recovery to finish No. 10 in NFL in rushing (1,206) and total yards (1,553).
14 Deuce McAllister	NO	Better fit in Saints' pass-oriented attack than Ricky Williams—if he can carry the load.
15 Stephen Davis	WAS	Suffered as Washington's only threat last season. Should rebound with Spurrier's creativity.
16 Charlie Garner	OAK	
17 Jerome Bettis	PIT	
18 Warrick Dunn	ATL	
19 Terrell Davis	DEN	
20 Travis Henry	BUF	
21 Jamal Lewis	BAL	
22 Duce Staley	PHI	
23 Fred Taylor	JAX	
24 Tiki Barber	NYG	
25 Emmitt Smith	DAL	
26 Michael Pittman	TB	
27 Michael Bennett	MIN	
28 William Green*	CLE	
29 Lamar Smith	CAR	
30 Ricky Watters	FA	
31 James Allen	HOU	
32 Thomas Jones	ARI	
33 James Stewart	DET	
34 Mike Alstott	TB	
35 Stacey Mack	JAX	
36 Ron Dayne	NYG	
37 T.J. Duckett*	ATL	
38 Larry Centers	BUF	
39 Trung Canidate	STL	
40 Tyrone Wheatley	OAK	
41 Dominic Rhodes	IND	
42 Tony Richardson	KC	
43 Richie Anderson	NYJ	
44 Kevan Barlow	SF	
45 Mike Anderson	DEN	
46 Chris Fuamatu-Ma'afala	PIT	
47 Correll Buckhalter	PHI	
48 Jamal Anderson	ATL	
49 Greg Comella	TEN	
50 DeShaun Foster*	CAR	
51 Troy Hambrick	DAL	
52 Travis Minor	MIA	
53 LaMont Jordan	NYJ	
54 Olandis Gary	DEN	
55 Robert Edwards	MIA	
56 Jason Brookins	BAL	
57 Marc Edwards	NE	
58 Fred Beasley	SF	
59 Kevin Faulk	NE	
60 Lamont Warren	DET	



## Tight ends

Player	Team
1 Tony Gonzalez	KC
2 Shannon Sharpe	DEN
3 Bubba Franks	GB
4 David Sloan	NO
5 Frank Wycheck	TEN
6 Chad Lewis	PHI
7 Wesley Walls	CAR
8 Marcus Pollard	IND
9 Byron Chamberlain	MIN
10 Ernie Conwell	STL
11 Jay Riemersma	BUF
12 Ken Dilger	TB
13 Jeremy Shockey*	NYG
14 Anthony Becht	NYJ
15 Freddie Jones	ARI
16 Daniel Graham*	NE
17 Stephen Alexander	SD
18 Jerramy Stevens*	SEA
19 Eric Johnson	SF
20 Roland Williams	OAK

## Kickers

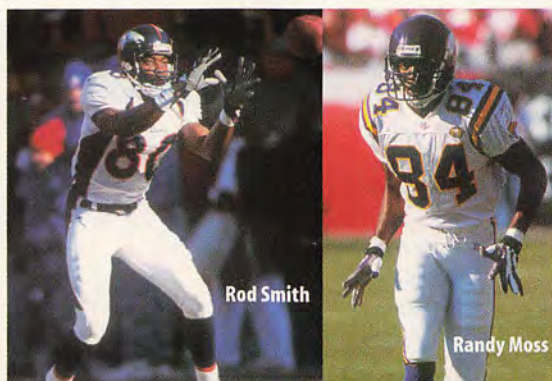
Player	Team
1 Mike Vanderjagt	IND
2 Jason Elam	DEN
3 Jeff Wilkins	STL
4 John Carney	NO
5 David Akers	PHI
6 Sebastian Janikowski	OAK
7 Todd Peterson	PIT
8 Brett Conway	WAS
9 Paul Edinger	CHI
10 Kris Brown	HOU
11 Ryan Longwell	GB
12 Adam Vinatieri	NE
13 Olindo Mare	MIA
14 Morten Andersen	KC
15 Jason Hanson	DET
16 Martin Gramatica	TB
17 John Hall	NYJ
18 Jay Feely	ATL
19 Joe Nedney	TEN
20 Tim Seder	DAL

CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM RIGHT: NORM HALL; STEVE BEYER (5)



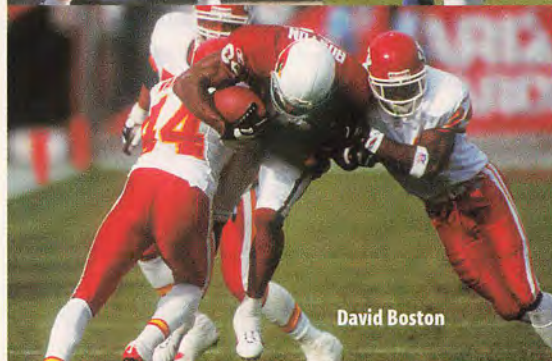
# Wide receivers

Player	Team	
1 Marvin Harrison	IND	326 catches, 4,600 yards and 41 TDs in three years; will benefit from Qadry Ismail's presence.
2 Terrell Owens	SF	Can be most dominant WR in the league; 190 catches, 2,800 yards, 29 TDs in two years.
3 Rod Smith	DEN	May be toughest receiver in the league. More than 200 catches for 3,000 yards in two years.
4 David Boston	ARI	Emerged as an elite WR with league-leading 1,598 yards last season; 2002 is a contract year.
5 Randy Moss	MIN	Will face more double-teams with loss of Cris Carter, but will at least match last year's totals.
6 Jimmy Smith	JAX	Averaging 90 receptions and 1,325 yards in last six seasons, but never more than eight touchdowns.
7 Tim Brown	OAK	Nine straight seasons with at least 76 catches and 1,000 yards; shows no sign of slowing down.
8 Torry Holt	STL	Threat to score from anywhere, anytime; 163 receptions, 3,000 yards, 13 TDs last two years.
9 Joe Horn	NO	Back-to-back solid seasons: 177 catches, 2,600 yards, 17 TDs over two years. QB Aaron Brooks is improving.
10 Terry Glenn	GB	Huge question mark has huge upside—seven catches for 110 yards and TD in only start last year.
11 Ed McCaffrey	DEN	Vital weapon in Denver's attack is recovered from broken leg; 75 catches, 1,000 yards likely.
12 Isaac Bruce	STL	A threat to score 10 TDs, he's started every game in the last three years, averaging 1,225 yards.
13 Johnnie Morton	KC	Dangerous possession receiver will top previous career highs for catches, yards and scores.
14 Keyshawn Johnson	TB	No. 5 in NFL with 106 catches last season; many more scoring chances in Gruden's offense.
15 Marty Booker	CHI	Restricted free agent set career highs with 100 catches (team record), 1,071 yards and eight TDs.
16 Troy Brown	NE	
17 Derrick Mason	TEN	
18 Kevin Johnson	CLE	
19 Jerry Rice	OAK	
20 Eric Moulds	BUF	
21 Cris Carter	FA	
22 Bill Schroeder	DET	
23 Curtis Conway	SD	
24 Darrell Jackson	SEA	
25 Az-Zahir Hakim	DET	
26 Qadry Ismail	IND	
27 Laveranues Coles	NYJ	
28 Chris Chambers	MIA	
29 James Thrash	PHI	
30 Amani Toomer	NYG	
31 Robert Ferguson	GB	
32 Peerless Price	BUF	

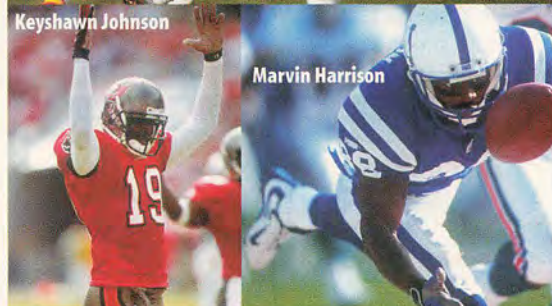


Rod Smith

Randy Moss

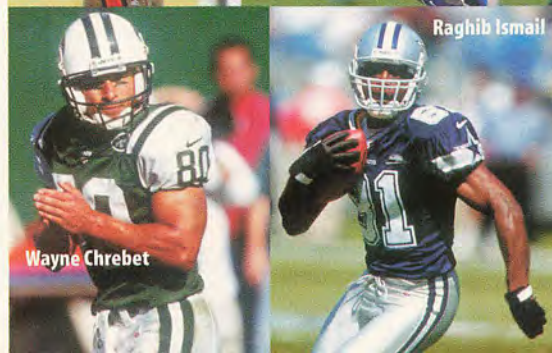


David Boston



Keyshawn Johnson

Marvin Harrison



Wayne Chrebet

Raghib Ismail



Steeler "D"

## Defenses

### Team

- 1 Chicago Bears
- 2 Pittsburgh Steelers
- 3 Philadelphia Eagles
- 4 New England Patriots
- 5 San Diego Chargers
- 6 St. Louis Rams
- 7 Green Bay Packers
- 8 New York Jets
- 9 Tampa Bay Buccaneers
- 10 Miami Dolphins
- 11 Cleveland Browns
- 12 San Francisco 49ers
- 13 Baltimore Ravens
- 14 New Orleans Saints
- 15 Seattle Seahawks
- 16 Denver Broncos
- 17 Oakland Raiders
- 18 New York Giants
- 19 Tennessee Titans
- 20 Indianapolis Colts
- 21 Cincinnati Bengals
- 22 Carolina Panthers
- 23 Jacksonville Jaguars
- 24 Dallas Cowboys
- 25 Washington Redskins
- 26 Kansas City Chiefs
- 27 Buffalo Bills
- 28 Atlanta Falcons
- 29 Detroit Lions
- 30 Minnesota Vikings
- 31 Arizona Cardinals
- 32 Houston Texans

FIRST COLUMN, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: TOMASSO DEROSA; P. CHAPMAN/BRSP; NORM HALL; P. MACK/BRSP; STEVE BEYER (2); P. CHAPMAN/BRSP; FAR RIGHT: BOB ROSATO/BRSP



# 2001 SEASON RECAP

## AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

### Eastern Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
New England	11	5	0	.688	371	272
Miami*	11	5	0	.688	344	290
NY Jets*	10	6	0	.625	308	295
Indianapolis	6	10	0	.375	413	486
Buffalo	3	13	0	.188	265	420

### Central Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	13	3	0	.812	352	212
Baltimore*	10	6	0	.625	303	265
Cleveland	7	9	0	.438	285	319
Tennessee	7	9	0	.438	336	388
Jacksonville	6	10	0	.375	294	286
Cincinnati	6	10	0	.375	226	309

### Western Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Oakland	10	6	0	.625	399	327
Seattle	9	7	0	.562	301	324
Denver	8	8	0	.500	340	339
Kansas City	6	10	0	.375	320	344
San Diego	5	11	0	.312	332	321

## NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

### Eastern Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Philadelphia	11	5	0	.688	343	208
Washington	8	8	0	.500	256	303
NY Giants	7	9	0	.438	294	321
Arizona	7	9	0	.438	295	343
Dallas	5	11	0	.312	246	338

### Central Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Chicago	13	3	0	.812	338	203
Green Bay*	12	4	0	.750	390	266
Tampa Bay*	9	7	0	.562	324	280
Minnesota	5	11	0	.312	290	390
Detroit	2	14	0	.125	270	424

### Western Division

	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
St. Louis	14	2	0	.875	503	273
San Francisco*	12	4	0	.750	409	282
New Orleans	7	9	0	.438	333	409
Atlanta	7	9	0	.438	291	377
Carolina	1	15	0	.062	253	410

\* wild card

## SUPER BOWL XXXVI

At Louisiana Superdome, New Orleans; February 3, 2002  
Attendance: 72,922

<b>St. Louis</b>	3	0	0	14	—	17
<b>New England</b>	0	14	3	3	—	20

## SCORING

	QTR	Time	
StL:	1	3:10	Wilkins 50 yd. field goal
NE:	2	8:49	Law 47 yd. interception return (Vinatieri kick)
NE:	2	0:31	Patten 8 yd. pass from Brady (Vinatieri kick)
NE:	3	1:18	Vinatieri 37 yd. field goal
StL:	4	9:31	Warner 2 yd. run (Wilkins kick)
StL:	4	1:30	Proehl 26 yd. pass from Warner (Wilkins kick)
NE:	4	0:00	Vinatieri 48 yd. field goal

## TEAM STATISTICS

	NE	StL
Rushing Yards	133	90
Passing Yards	134	337
Total Yards	267	427
Sacked-Yards Lost	2-11	3-28
Third-Down Efficiency	2-11	5-13
Fourth-Down Efficiency	0-0	0-0
Time of Possession	26:30	33:30

## INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

**Rushing: New England**—Smith 18-92, Patten 1-22, Faulk 2-15, Edwards 2-5, Brady 1-3; **St. Louis**—Faulk 17-76, Warner 3-6, Hakim 1-5, Hodgins 1-3

**Passing: New England**—Brady 16-27-145-1 TD-0 INT; **St. Louis**—Warner 28-44-365-1 TD-2 INT

**Receiving: New England**—Brown 6-89, Redmond 3-24, Wiggins 2-14, Edwards 2-7, Parren 1-8-1, Smith 1-4; **St. Louis**—Hakim 5-90, Bruce 5-56, Holt 5-49, Faulk 4-54, Proehl 3-71-1, Robinson 2-18, Conwell 2-8, Murphy 1-11, Hodgins 1-8

**Sacks: New England**—Hamilton 1, McGinest 1, Seymour 1; **St. Louis**—Little 1, Wistrom 1

## SUPER BOWLS

1967	Green Bay 35, Kansas City 10
1968	Green Bay 33, Oakland 14
1969	New York Jets 16, Baltimore 7
1970	Kansas City 23, Minnesota 7
1971	Baltimore 16, Dallas 13
1972	Dallas 24, Miami 3
1973	Miami 14, Washington 7
1974	Miami 24, Minnesota 7
1975	Pittsburgh 16, Minnesota 6
1976	Pittsburgh 21, Dallas 17
1977	Oakland 32, Minnesota 14
1978	Dallas 27, Denver 10
1979	Pittsburgh 35, Dallas 31
1980	Pittsburgh 31, Los Angeles Rams 19
1981	Oakland 27, Philadelphia 10
1982	San Francisco 26, Cincinnati 21
1983	Washington 27, Miami 17
1984	Los Angeles Raiders 38, Washington 9
1985	San Francisco 38, Miami 16
1986	Chicago 46, New England 10
1987	New York Giants 39, Denver 20
1988	Washington 42, Denver 10
1989	San Francisco 20, Cincinnati 16
1990	San Francisco 55, Denver 10
1991	New York Giants 20, Buffalo 19
1992	Washington 37, Buffalo 24
1993	Dallas 52, Buffalo 17
1994	Dallas 30, Buffalo 13
1995	San Francisco 49, San Diego 26
1996	Dallas 27, Pittsburgh 17
1997	Green Bay 35, New England 21
1998	Denver 31, Green Bay 24
1999	Denver 34, Atlanta 19
2000	St. Louis 23, Tennessee 16
2001	Baltimore 34, New York Giants 7
2002	New England 20, St. Louis 17

## SUPER BOWL MVP

1967	Bart Starr, Green Bay Packers
1968	Bart Starr, Green Bay Packers
1969	Joe Namath, New York Jets
1970	Len Dawson, Kansas City Chiefs
1971	Chuck Howley, Dallas Cowboys
1972	Roger Staubach, Dallas Cowboys
1973	Jake Scott, Miami Dolphins
1974	Larry Csonka, Miami Dolphins
1975	Franco Harris, Pittsburgh Steelers
1976	Lynn Swann, Pittsburgh Steelers
1977	Fred Biletnikoff, Oakland Raiders
1978	Randy White and Harvey Martin, Dallas Cowboys
1979	Terry Bradshaw, Pittsburgh Steelers
1980	Terry Bradshaw, Pittsburgh Steelers
1981	Jim Plunkett, Oakland Raiders
1982	Joe Montana, San Francisco 49ers
1983	John Riggins, Washington Redskins
1984	Marcus Allen, Los Angeles Raiders
1985	Joe Montana, San Francisco 49ers
1986	Richard Dent, Chicago Bears
1987	Phil Simms, New York Giants
1988	Doug Williams, Washington Redskins
1989	Jerry Rice, San Francisco 49ers
1990	Joe Montana, San Francisco 49ers
1991	Ottis Anderson, New York Giants
1992	Mark Rypien, Washington Redskins
1993	Troy Aikman, Dallas Cowboys
1994	Emmitt Smith, Dallas Cowboys
1995	Steve Young, San Francisco 49ers
1996	Larry Brown, Dallas Cowboys
1997	Deshaun Howard, Green Bay Packers
1998	Terrell Davis, Denver Broncos
1999	John Elway, Denver Broncos
2000	Kurt Warner, St. Louis Rams
2001	Ray Lewis, Baltimore Ravens
2002	Tom Brady, New England Patriots

WILD CARD GAMES	DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS	CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS	SUPER BOWL XXXVI
Tampa Bay 9	Philadelphia 33	Philadelphia 24	
PHILADELPHIA 31	CHICAGO 19		St. Louis 17
San Francisco 15	Green Bay 17		
GREEN BAY 25	ST. LOUIS 45	ST. LOUIS 29	
N.Y. Jets 3	Oakland 13	New England 24	
OAKLAND 10	NEW ENGLAND 16		
Baltimore 20	Baltimore 10		New England 20
MIAMI 3	PITTSBURGH 27	PITTSBURGH 17	

home team in caps





# INSIDE THE RED ZONE



*Street & Smith's takes you inside the 20  
for a look at the 2002 NFL season*



No, if only because General Manager Rich McKay is one of the most respected and brilliant men in the game. Unfortunately, the three sons of owner Malcolm Glazer who have final say on club affairs sometimes come across as spoiled kids being allowed to play with daddy's money.

Maybe it's their images. Bryan, Joel and Ed Glazer are all millionaires, but they come across as rotisserie geeks. Though they could wear Armani, they dress like accountants and their matching wire-rimmed glasses only add to their smarmy, Bill Gates looks.

But, like Gates, they're anything but clueless when it comes to making money. The Glazers arguably have sucked more cash out of an NFL community than any ownership group in the game. They threatened to move the club until they received a

**Until the thirty-something Glazer boys went looking for a head coach in January, they seemed pretty sharp. But their sense of timing and public relations can be terrible.**

publicly financed stadium, charged personal-seat deposits to season-ticket holders, and each year have among the highest average ticket prices in the league. This despite the fact that Tampa Bay has the lowest per-capita income of any NFL market. Not surprisingly, the Bucs rank among the league's most profitable teams, earning the Glazers \$34 million in 1998 and \$24.6 million in 1999, according to NFL numbers made public during Al Davis's recent lawsuit. They could sell the team for three times the \$192 million they paid in 1995.

Until the thirty-something Glazer boys went looking for a head coach in January, they seemed pretty sharp. But their sense of timing and public relations can be terrible.

Firing Tony Dungy was perhaps justified, but the youngsters strung the popular and respected coach along. At one point, they told their public relations director there would be no decision on Dungy until the following day, only to announce his firing later that night via the team's web site. That left fans with the enduring image of the classy Dungy packing his belongings into his car alone in the dark while it rained.

The Glazers then failed to execute their plan to hire Bill Parcells. By then, logical back-up Steve Spurrier had signed with Washington. When Joel Glazer contacted the Raiders



about Jon Gruden, Davis blew him off with an outrageous trade demand. And when McKay recommended Marvin Lewis, they vetoed the deal, still apparently without a plan. McKay stopped short of quitting on the spot but interviewed with the Falcons.

In just three weeks, the Glazers managed to undo much of the goodwill they generated in six years of ownership, when they brought the team's reputation back to the Hugh Culverhouse era.

Then Joel Glazer, the middle son and most ambitious of the bunch, either pulled off one of the most brilliant power plays in NFL history or enjoyed a tremendous run of luck. He flirted with 49ers coach Steve Mariucci, whose departure would have cleared the way for Gruden to move across the bay next year when his contract expired. That was enough to spring Gruden from the Raiders, albeit for \$8 million and a basket of draft picks.

In another smart move, the Glazers made peace with McKay and signed him to a new six-year deal, pledging to give back day-to-day personnel decisions.

So maybe they're not as disorganized and clueless as they appear, after all.

"We took a short-term hit," McKay says. "But I think we recovered very well."

—Pete Williams



Tony Dungy



19

## When Emmitt Smith breaks the all-time rushing record this season, should he be considered the **best running back ever**?

**E**xpect it to happen in midseason, probably in late October or early November. Emmitt Smith will take a handoff, dip his shoulder and drive ahead for tough yardage, exactly as he has done thousands of times in his 13 years with the Dallas Cowboys.

But this particular run will be special, pushing Smith's career rushing total above 16,726 yards, the all-time mark set by Walter Payton. Smith, the new record-holder, will be hailed as the "Greatest Running Back in Pro Football History."

Will the title fit?

That question can't be answered merely by comparing career totals. There are too many variables involved:

- Old-timers played much shorter seasons, giving them fewer opportunities to pile up yardage. Steve Van Buren, a powerful Philadelphia back who led the NFL in rushing four times, was a rookie in 1944, when teams played only 10 games. His longest season was 12 games.

- Conditions have varied over time, sometimes favoring runners, sometimes not. Ball-carriers ran wild in 1958, for example, averaging 4.23 yards per attempt, their high-water mark in NFL history. But defenses had the upper hand in 1935, holding runners to less than three yards per carry.

- Several all-time greats had careers much shorter than Smith's, substantially reducing their total yardage. Gale Sayers might well have been the most elusive runner ever, but knee injuries doused his magic after just seven seasons.

A computer program smoothes out these inconsistencies, allowing honest comparisons of runners from all periods of football history. It adjusts each player's statistics to 16-game seasons under 2001 conditions (when the typical rusher gained 4.06 yards per carry). It then mathematically compresses or expands each career to 12 years, the same length as Smith's prior to this season.

Who emerges as the top gun in these adjusted rankings? Not Emmitt Smith, but Jim Brown.

Brown was the NFL's dominant player during his nine seasons (1957-1965) with the Cleveland Browns. He averaged 20 carries per game for those nine years, yet never missed a down because of injury, blasting through opposing defenses for 12,312 yards before leaving Cleveland for Hollywood at age 29. He ranks sixth on the all-time list, more than

4,400 yards behind Payton.

But it is Brown's adjusted statistics that show his true greatness. He would have amassed 18,057 yards if he had played 12 seasons under today's conditions, according to the computer. The runner-up in the adjusted rankings, Barry Sanders, is more than 400 yards behind, Payton nearly 500 back, and Smith almost 1,400 off the pace.

Twelve backs in NFL history would have surpassed 13,000 career yards if they had wrapped up 12-year careers in 2001. Here's a quick look at the real list of pro football's greatest rushers, with adjusted yardage in parentheses:

**1. Jim Brown (18,057):** Brown gained 1,863 yards in his best season, 1963, the equivalent of 2,198 yards today. His early retirement forced the computer to simulate three years to fill out a career of 12.

**2. Barry Sanders (17,651):** Sanders' quickness and dazzling cutback moves yielded 15,269 yards in 10 seasons for the Lions, less than 1,500 yards short of Payton's mark.

**3. Walter Payton (17,571):** Payton was one of the most consistent rushers ever, picking up more than 1,100 adjusted yards in 11 straight seasons (1976-1986) for the Bears.

**4. Emmitt Smith (16,700):** He reached his peak, 1,840 adjusted yards, in 1995. His computerized total for 12 years is about 500 yards above his actual figure of 16,187.

**5. Eric Dickerson (14,225):** Dickerson was a workhorse, carrying the ball more than 375 times in four different seasons. He crossed the 2,000-yard threshold for the Rams in 1984 (2,105 actual, 2,149 adjusted) and ended his career with an actual total of 13,259.

**6. Tony Dorsett (13,795):** Dorsett is remembered for his remarkable acceleration, which shot him past 1,000 yards in eight of his 11 seasons with the Cowboys.

**7. Curtis Martin (13,776):** Here's a case where the computer is gazing into the future. Martin has played only seven seasons so far, churning out 9,267 yards for the Patriots and Jets. That projects to an adjusted total of 13,776 over 12 years.

**8. Franco Harris (13,574):** Critics insisted that Harris too often avoided contact by darting out of bounds, but he was durable enough to last 13 seasons.

**9. O.J. Simpson (13,529):** Simpson was the first NFL player to reach 2,000 yards on the ground in a single season, piling up 2,003 in 14 games for Buffalo in 1973. That would be the same as 2,314 yards today.

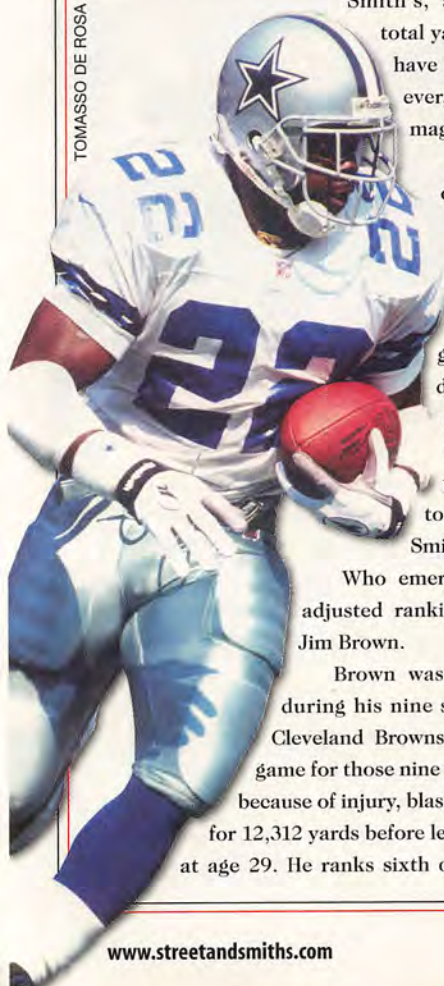
**10. Jerome Bettis (13,362):** "The Bus" has topped 1,000 yards in eight of nine seasons. His actual total of 10,876 yards soars above 13,000 when his career is projected to 12 years.

**11. Eddie George (13,171):** George has played only six years, gaining an impressive total of 7,813 yards.

**12. Earl Campbell (13,161):** Campbell surpassed 1,300 yards five times in an eight-year career.

—G. Scott Thomas

TOMASSO DE ROSA





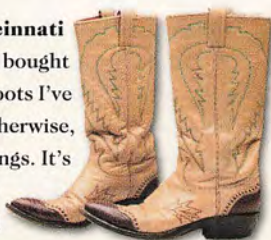
## How did last year's top rookies spend their **first NFL paycheck**?

**W**hat if you knew that the next time you went to the bank, your account summary would reflect a balance exceeding your wildest financial fantasies?

That is precisely what happens to many NFL rookies every year. Sure, the best thing to do is begin thinking long term, but even the Clampetts moved to Beverly—Hills, that is. Here's what some of last year's hottest rookies did with that first big payday:

### FIRST-ROUND \$\$\$\$\$

**Justin Smith, defensive end, Cincinnati (No. 4 pick overall):** "The first thing I bought was a pair of boots. They're the best boots I've ever had and couldn't afford them otherwise, but I don't need to go crazy buying things. It's not my style. A lot of guys went out and got these unbelievable cars, all



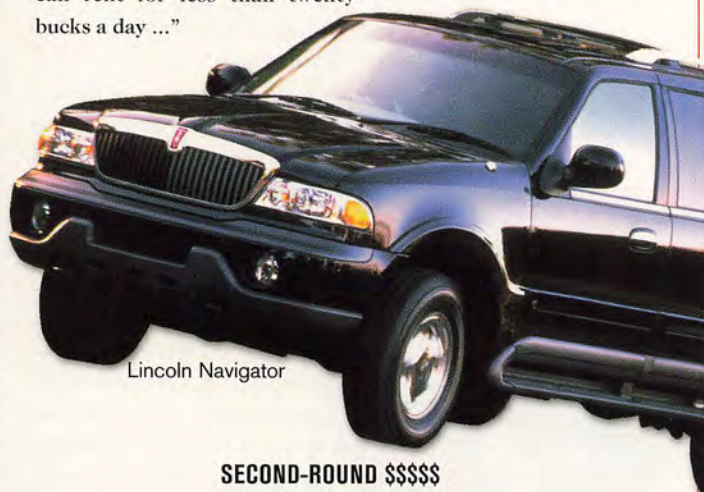
Justin Smith

custom stuff. I have a truck. I like my truck. I don't need a car. I don't need much of anything."

**Koren Robinson, wide receiver, Seattle (No. 9):** "The day I knew I was going pro and would be getting some cash, I knew what I wanted: an S500 Benz. It's beautiful, a dream car. I love it and could never have had it without football."

**Michael Bennett, running back, Minnesota (No. 27):** "A 2002 Cadillac Escalade. I've always wanted an SUV, so why not get the best one? I'm a low-key guy, so the truck is pretty basic right now. I haven't gone crazy customizing it with giant rims, DVD players at every seat or any of that. It's plain, which suits me fine."

**Reggie Wayne, wide receiver, Indianapolis (No. 30):** "I bought a truck—a Lincoln Navigator to replace my Camry. It was a big leap for me. It's got 22-inch rims and a great system. The Camry was good, but it's a Camry. When I saw a commercial that said it was the No. 1-selling car in America, I knew I needed something different. They're everywhere. Anything you can rent for less than twenty bucks a day ..."



Lincoln Navigator

### SECOND-ROUND \$\$\$\$\$

**Robert Ferguson, wide receiver, Green Bay (No. 41):** "I didn't run out and buy anything for myself right away. It wasn't time. I needed to focus on getting ready for camp. I was going to be catching passes from Brett Favre ... Brett Favre! I did buy my grandmother a new Expedition. She never had a reliable way to get around and always took really good care of me. She needed a ride—it was a good purchase."

**Quincy Carter, quarterback, Dallas (No. 53):** "I had a baseball contract with the Cubs before I even thought about making it to the NFL. I actually spent my baseball money on a GMC Yukon XL Danali. My football money is working for me in the bank."

—Michael J. Fresina



17

## Have the St. Louis Rams taken trumpeting their religious beliefs to a new level in pro sports?

**Y**es. The Rams have marched into the Super Bowl twice in the last three seasons, showing off many of the league's most talented players—and its most prolific proselytizers.

Their athletic skills have earned plenty of acclaim, and their profound faith has also been widely praised. But while their sincerity in their devout beliefs garners accolades, the constant preaching draws mixed reviews.

Mike Claiborne, program director and on-air host at KFNS, a St. Louis sports radio station, blames the “religious insecurities” of the media for being wary of such testifying when the players’ behaviors clearly match their words. Alex Marvez, Miami Dolphins beat writer for the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, agrees. His Super Bowl column criticized fellow journalists for closing notepads and shutting down cameras when religion came up. “Too often newspapers ignore close ties between religion and sports,” he says. “This is what the Rams are.”

Jim Thomas, who covers the Rams for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, says the national press did underplay the Rams’ faith-oriented persona, which would have been fitting for a pre-game feature. But when it comes to game coverage, Thomas and other

**Warner defends his quote, insisting that while God is ‘not just waving a magic wand’ to make him win because he’s a better Christian, he believes ‘God is watching over me’ and it is his duty to spread the word.**

journalists want to know about zones and patterns, not God’s will.

Most of the Rams are respectful of the journalist’s job. “If you ask a football question, you’ll get a football answer,” Thomas says. However, Thomas and others say some players—most notably wide receiver Isaac Bruce—cross the boundary, talking religion when it is clearly inappropriate.

Bruce has been quoted saying God answered his prayers after a bad first half (“God really manifested in the third quarter. I had 89 yards.”) After catching the winning pass in the Rams’ Super Bowl win two seasons ago, he said, “That wasn’t me. That was all God.”

Such post-game witnessing creates problems, says *Chicago Tribune* columnist Rick Morrissey, who wrote an article criticizing the incessant, in-your-face preaching.

“It isn’t fair to the reader who expects to hear about the game, not about their beliefs,” he says, adding that he’s a devout Catholic but if he saturated his sports column with religious commentary he’d justifiably lose his job. “People roll their eyes at comments like Bruce’s which make it seem like there’s no free will.”

Although Warner says he’s unlikely to discourage a teammate from testifying, he agrees that there’s a difference between questions about the game and about his life. It is, however, something he only learned over time. “Early on, I wanted to make a statement about living for and playing for God,” he says. “But now I don’t want it to be where reporters say, ‘Oh, we’re not going to ask him anymore.’ If somebody wants to know about

football, I’ll tell them about football.”

But even Warner, generally considered less strident than other “born-again,” has made comments that cross the line, says Ray Hartmann, columnist for *The Riverfront Times*, St. Louis’ alternative newspaper. Hartmann took issue with Warner’s comments after winning the NFC title. “We felt ... the Lord placed us in this position for a particular destiny—this place, this time, for a special thing,” Warner said. “And we’ve got such a great group of guys here that the Lord has assembled.” (After the Super Bowl loss to the Patriots, the newspaper ran a headline reading “Jesus Gets Even: Rams’ Prayers Go Unanswered.”)

Hartmann says he knows Warner believes what he says—“he’s the real deal”—and welcomes statements about religious inspiration making someone a stronger person and, thus, a better player. But comments that imply that God chooses sides “are not as benign as people think.”

Such comments “cheapen the message” of the power of faith and the hard work of humans, according to Hartmann, who wonders if the Rams’ front office deserves some credit for putting the team together. Warner defends his quote, insisting that while God is “not just waving a magic wand” to make him win because he’s a better Christian; he believes “God is watching over me” and it is his duty to spread the word.

Hartmann adds that Bruce’s and Warner’s quotes also reveal how insensitive the athletes are to how such talk might make others feel. Imagine the public reaction, he says, if Bob Kraft, the New England Patriots owner, boasted that since he is Jewish, his team’s win proved that Jews are the chosen people. Morrissey goes one step further, saying that Warner would not be treated the same if he stood up and proclaimed himself an atheist or a true believer ... in Satan.

Warner’s belief in public professions of faith is so strong, however, that he says everyone should give praise, no matter what they believe in.

“I wouldn’t share their belief, but I would support what they did and what they said,” he says.

— Stuart Miller



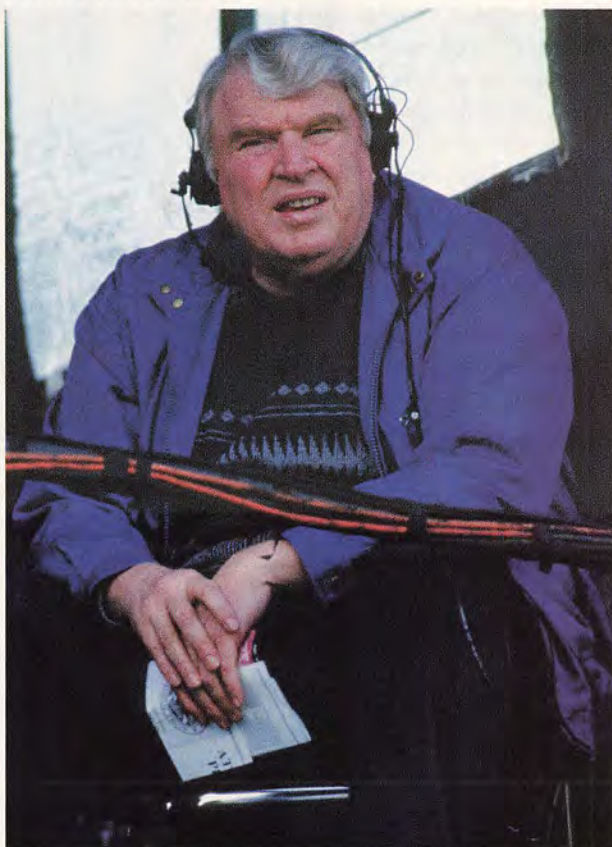
Isaac Bruce



## Can John Madden save 'Monday Night Football'?

If anyone can, he can. John Madden doesn't wear an ugly toupee. He's neither acerbic nor bitter. And his sentences aren't designed to remind humanity of his superiority. OK, so John Madden is no Howard Cosell. From physique to disposition to vocabulary—a simple “boom” would have been anathema to the verbose Cosell—the former coach is the late lawyer's diametric opposite.

Yet Madden is being asked to save the booth Cosell built. And most experts agree Madden is the one man who can right the listing ship known as “Monday Night Football.” Like Cosell, Madden is “larger than life,” says Howard Nass, president of HN Media Services. “Monday Night Football” is “immediately much better,” adds Richard Sandomir, television sports columnist for *The New York Times*.

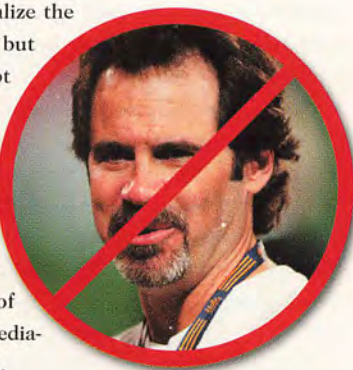


Madden has been a winner wherever he has gone. He coached the Oakland Raiders to a 1977 Super Bowl victory. He and Pat Summerall became the game's premier broadcast team, at CBS beginning in 1981, then at Fox, where they moved in 1994. But Fox dropped the aging Summerall, then released Madden from his \$7.5 million contract, offering a cheaper extension.

So Madden jumped to ABC, which reportedly paid \$20 million for four years. The struggling network gladly abandoned its disastrous experiment, dropping comedian Dennis Miller and

ex-quarterback Dan Fouts, retaining only play-by-play superstar Al Michaels. ABC Sports President Howard Katz promptly declared that MNF's quality would improve and its ratings increase.

Madden should revitalize the floundering broadcasts, but industry observers doubt ratings will improve. “I'm looking forward to ‘Monday Night Football,’ and I wasn't looking forward to it last year,” says Steve Sternberg, vice-president and director of audience analysis for media-buying firm Magna Global.



**With Madden instead of Miller and Fouts, Sternberg says hard-core fans may stay with a boring game longer, but Sandomir says that's purely hypothetical.**

Sandomir says some people think Madden is past his prime and too prone to clowning—and that CBS's Phil Simms is his analytical equal—but he disagrees, arguing that Madden ably blends analysis and entertainment. And working with Michaels instead of the more reticent Summerall might make him better. “Michaels will ask more questions and might provoke more out of him,” Sandomir says.

There is potential for clashes, since Michaels likes to talk and Madden “was spoiled by Summerall and is used to taking up a whole lot of air space,” he adds. “But they're both professionals.”

Nass says it will be Michaels's responsibility to match up to Madden. Sternberg adds both have big egos, but he's certain Michaels is excited, “He's sitting there saying, ‘No more three-man booth—this is going to be great.’”

But even the happiest, most talented announcers won't boost the ratings, which have dropped for seven straight years to a low of 11.5 last season. That decline reflects a network television trend as cable TV continues expanding.

Promising ratings growth is “just posturing so they can charge more from advertisers,” says Sternberg. “But short of bringing back Cosell, Madden is the closest thing to at least prevent ratings from declining as much as they could.”

With Madden instead of Miller and Fouts, Sternberg says hard-core fans may stay with a boring game longer, but Sandomir says that's purely hypothetical. “No one has ever calculated the impact of an analyst on ratings,” Sandomir says.

Ultimately, Nass says, great matchups count more than the men in the booth. “It's still the game that brings people to the set,” he says.

—Stuart Miller



15

## What did the NFL do in response to the **Foxboro fumble fiasco?**

**A**pparently, very little. As wonderful and perfect as the New England Patriots' Super Bowl season was, it should have ended with a fumble by Tom Brady in a snowstorm. Instead, the kid ends up in Disney World.

The Oakland Raiders ended up with a "snow job." The Raiders and most logically inclined pro football fans still think Brady fumbled when hit by former Michigan teammate Charles Woodson in their divisional playoff. Referee Walt Coleman thought so, too, until instant replay turned logic into a recitation of arcane rules interpretation.

Maybe the Raiders could appeal to judges for a Super Bowl trophy of their own. After all, the venue was icy and the result made no more sense than Olympic figure skating.

It turned the offseason into lengthy and fruitless discussions about "The Tuck Rule," an obscure regulation that baffled anyone trying to clarify it. It's been around for ages to help officials limit "cheap" turnovers, and it was barely noticed until instant replay slowed down the hit on Brady and played it over and over again.

The intent of the rule is to give passers the benefit of the doubt on incompletions. A forward pass is started by "any intentional forward movement" of the arm, "even if the player loses possession of the ball as he is attempting to tuck it back toward his body. Also, if the player has tucked the ball into his body and then loses possession, it is a fumble."

Supposedly, this eliminates the necessity for officials to make more judgment calls. But taken literally, any quarterback who takes a snap and immediately pump fakes makes himself immune to fumbles—as long as he doesn't tuck the ball against his body.

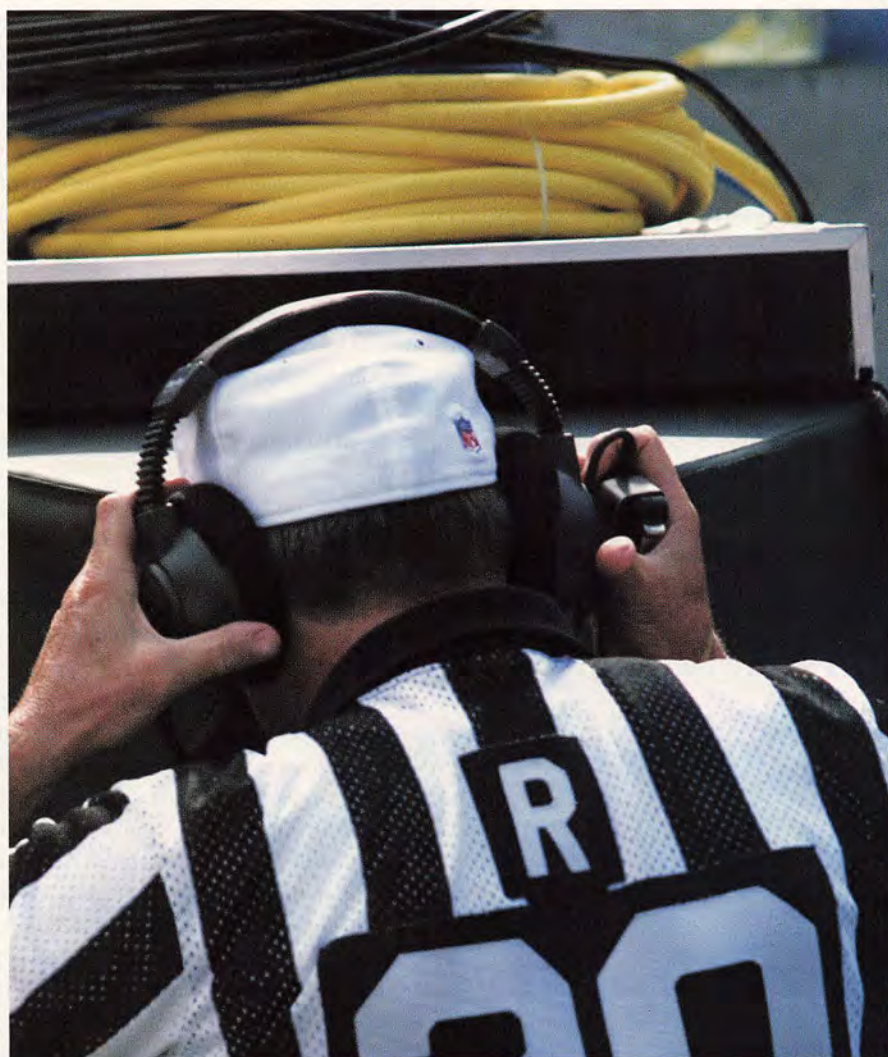
The NFL Competition Committee, realizing that the magnifying glass could cause embarrassment, tried to modify the wording, only to fumble the effort.

**'Games don't usually come down to one play, but in that one, it did. We're going to get over it, but it's tough.'**

—Raiders coach Bill Callahan

"It didn't get clearer; it got murkier," says Tampa Bay General Manager Rich McKay, the committee's co-chairman.

"I felt there should be a change," says Tennessee coach Jeff Fisher, co-chair. "But I will say this: It's very, very complex."



So it's back to the drawing board. Common sense would seem to have a place in the debate, if only somebody can find the right words.

"It was a fumble," says new Raiders coach Bill Callahan, echoing outgoing coach Jon Gruden. "The first thing you teach a quarterback when he's pressured is to put two hands on the ball and secure the ball. You become a runner. And the ball is susceptible to being stripped."

"Games don't usually come down to one play, but in that one, it did. We're going to get over it, but it's tough."

It was another lesson on the foibles of instant replay. In this case, the camera corrected a wrong only to create more controversy and confusion among fans than did the original fumble call by Coleman.

Instead of marveling at the game-tying, 45-yard field goal by Adam Vinatieri, people are muddling through technicalities and technology and wondering what the "tuck" is all about.

—Don Pierson



## How did this year's top draft picks spend their **last semester** in college?

It was an early morning in mid-February at the IMG Academies in Bradenton, Florida, but already William Green was running hard across an artificial-turf practice field, trying to improve his personal-best time in the 40-yard dash. The NFL combine was two weeks away and Green was tweaking his running style, moving on the balls of his feet with his toes pointed slightly up to produce greater acceleration.

Green rushed for 1,559 yards in his final season at Boston College in 2001. By the time NFL scouts and personnel executives gathered in Indianapolis for the league's annual combine, they were quite familiar with the 6-foot-1 running back and his explosive running style, which has been compared to that of Edgerrin James of the Indianapolis Colts.

But Green was determined to show he was even better than what scouts saw on film. He and seven other top clients of IMG spent six weeks training at the International Performance

acumen and psychological makeup. Although many players who attend the combine are certain to be drafted high, they can improve—or damage—their desirability by the performance at the combine.

Though there are at least six organized pre-combine programs, their approaches are similar. Players typically spend 90 minutes daily on artificial turf working on running form, breaking down the 40-yard dash into strategic segments and mastering the three-cone shuttle drill. They spend hours in the weight room to improve overall strength, with a special emphasis on preparing for the combine test of bench-pressing 225 pounds as many times as possible.

Some programs bring in former NFL coaches to work with players on the same football drills used at the combine. This year, IMG enlisted sprinter Michael Johnson (himself an IMG client) to work with the players on running form.

"Sometimes you felt like you were training to be a track star, not a football player," Green says. "Football speed is different than 40-yard speed. It would seem like either you're a football player or you're not, but this is the way they measure you and it's up to you to perform."

Many players find themselves training in the same facilities as successful, highly paid stars from other sports. In a subtle way, that helps them start thinking of themselves as pros. Baseball star Nomar Garciaparra, tennis player Meghann Shaughnessy and soccer star Mia Hamm were among those in residence at Athletes' Performance during combine training.

Verstegen, who created the IPI program for IMG before opening his own facility, trained 20 players at "AP" last winter, including former Arizona State offensive tackle Levi Jones, ex-Oregon State linebacker James Allen and former BYU running back Luke Staley.

During training, there's a special emphasis on eating healthy foods and taking protein shakes and nutritional supplements such as creatine. For those players who need to put on weight, it's possible to add as much as 25 pounds over a six-week program.

Players also spend time going through mock interview sessions to prepare for the questions that will be asked in Indianapolis. NFL officials have been known to grill players about on-field weaknesses and off-the-field problems, but they're mainly getting a feel for a player's attitude, intelligence and personality.

"It's the biggest job interview of your life," says Keyou Craver, the former Nebraska cornerback who trained for the combine this year at Athletes' Performance.

Agents use the programs as incentives to get clients to sign, and typically pick up the cost of the training, which runs between \$15,000 and \$25,000. That's a small price to pay if a player can improve his stock and move up in the draft.

—Pete Williams



William Green

Institute to make sure they demonstrated the raw strength and speed that is tested and emphasized more than football skills at the combine. How the players performed could have meant the difference in several slots, or even rounds, in April's NFL Draft, which could have meant a difference of hundreds of thousands, even millions, of dollars in a signing bonus.

These days, nearly every player projected in the top rounds of the draft turns pro immediately following his team's last game, forfeits his last semester of college and enrolls in a program designed specifically to improve performance at the combine.

"It's the first time that we ever had to go out and present ourselves," says Mike Pearson, the former Florida offensive lineman who already had graduated by the time he headed to IPI. "Even if you're confident you look good on film, you want to get to Indy and be prepared to shoot out of the gates."

No longer do top NFL prospects rely on self-made and self-directed training programs after their final college seasons. Much like high school students who spend months on expensive SAT prep courses, they sign up for grueling training regimens at places like IPI; Mark Verstegen's Athletes' Performance in Tempe, Arizona; the Fast program in Boca Raton, Florida; and Mackie Shilstone's Center for Performance Enhancement in New Orleans. They are hopeful of an edge in the draft.

Their primary testing ground is the combine, four days of intense workouts, drills and interviews in which officials from all NFL teams try to assess college players' physical skills, mental





## 13

Who's the next  
Tom Brady?

Let's get one thing straight about Tom Brady, who came out of the deepest thicket on the Patriots' depth chart to lead them to victory in the last Super Bowl: He's not the second coming of Kurt Warner.

The next Kurt Warner is Jeff Garcia of the San Francisco 49ers. He came from the absolute depths of Nowheresville to rescue his franchise from Salary-Cap Purgatory and restore it to the postseason.

Brady is a story all to himself, so the big question is "Who's the next Tom Brady?" That began to be answered when the 2002 college draft moved into its second day, the period when "who's he?" names begin to dot the lists of teams needy for quarterbacks.

Remember that Brady himself was a mere sixth-round pick, most notable as the guy nudged aside when wonder quarterback Drew Henson, now on his way to becoming the New York Yankees' next third baseman, assumed command of the Michigan Wolverines' offense.

Confusing? It should be since most NFL coaches are now in a state of confusion when pondering where their next quarterback will come from. The Baltimore Ravens, seeking one more trip to the Super Bowl, thought Elvis Grbac was the missing

### The NFL of today is more about cap values and what can be done with modest talent rather than seeking out the perfect quarterback.

piece and paid handsomely to sign him as a free agent. Less than a year later, Grbac, frustrated by his failure to deliver, retired before the Ravens could cut him.

Two years ago, Jeff Blake, the Saints' new quarterback, led them out of obscurity and on the way to a rare division championship. This spring they put him on the street. Buffalo pondered mightily and finally chose Rob Johnson over Doug Flutie. The answer turned out to be neither of the above. Flutie shone brightly but briefly for San Diego, then became part of the problem as the Chargers crashed and burned after a fast start. The Bills pushed the disappointing Johnson into the free-agency market to get out of salary-cap jail. The Bucs added him to their quarterback menagerie.

The Drew Bledsoe case tells more about the changing quarterback market than anything. Two years ago, the Patriots signed him to a long-term \$100 million contract. After they won the Super Bowl on the cheap with Brady, they hung a "For Trade" sign around Bledsoe's neck. All they got were window-shoppers, and those didn't even peer through the window very long.

When a team goes shopping for a quarterback these days, it doesn't stop at Tiffany's. Instead, it heads for Wal-Mart or, better yet, the nearest garage sale. Garcia came from the Canadian Football League, Warner from the Arena Football League. There were 26 quarterbacks on NFL rosters last season that played in NFL Europe.

The smart NFL teams scout in Canada and Europe and are regulars at Arena games.

"We also have to pay more attention to quarterbacks in the lower rounds of the NFL Draft," says Tony Dungy, the new coach at Indianapolis. Dungy inherited Peyton Manning, one of the best, but even with Manning the Colts haven't won a playoff game.

The NFL of today is more about cap values and what can be done with modest talent rather than seeking out the perfect quarterback. "I don't care if he throws sidearm, throws with a hitch or whatever else," says the Rams' Mike Martz, one of the more air-minded NFL coaches. "Just as long as he gets the ball to the receiver."

That makes sense. Make a mistake on a quarterback with a high first-round pick, as San Diego did with Ryan Leaf, Cincinnati with Akili Smith or Chicago with Cade McNown, and it may handcuff a team for two or three years because of salary-cap restraints. The NFL is a copycat league, and now everyone wants to emulate the Patriots, who signed a bunch of blue-light special free agents last year and then watched their sixth-round ruby, Brady, lead them to their first Vince Lombardi Trophy.

Brady fit in with the chemistry of his team, but the quarterback doesn't have to win the Mr. Congeniality contest. Bill Belichick, the Pats' coach, just wanted Brady to play within his limits, use every weapon on offense and not put the defense in a hole from which it couldn't crawl. It worked.

Miami will try something similar, having traded for Ricky Williams and signed Jay Fielder to a long-term contract. Fielder is not a big-arm guy, but he's a good athlete (a former decathlete), is Dartmouth smart and has a knack for winning. Three years ago, he was out of the football-playing business, working as an assistant coach at Hofstra.

Seattle impresario Mike Holmgren, who has a reputation for knowing quarterbacks, traded for Matt Hasselbeck of the Packers last year. Halfway through the season, Holmgren needed Trent Dilfer to bail him out of a disaster. The previous February, after quarterbacking the Ravens to the Super Bowl title, Dilfer was dumped when Baltimore signed Grbac. This spring, Holmgren broke the news to Hasselbeck: All that winning had earned Dilfer the Seahawks' starting job.

Into this strange quarterback scenario comes the one man outside the NFL who has the best reputation for getting the most out of modest quarterback talent. Steve Spurrier, romanced for open NFL jobs for years, surprisingly resigned at the University of Florida. Having fired Marty Schottenheimer, who won eight of his final 11 games in his only year as Redskins coach, Washington owner Daniel Snyder paid a fortune to hire Spurrier.

Spurrier quickly traded for Danny Wuerffel, who won four Southeastern Conference titles and a Heisman Trophy for his coach at Florida. The overwhelming opinion of NFL coaches is that Wuerffel can't start and win in their league. Spurrier thinks he can.

This is a debate to watch.

—Larry Felser



## How do assistant coaches go about finding another job when their head coach is fired?

It depends. Many assistants simply join their boss in his new gig. Last winter, Tony Dungy took part of his staff from Tampa Bay to Indianapolis. Several of Marty Schottenheimer's assistants with the Redskins followed him west to San Diego.

But it's not always so easy for many assistants. New coaches sometimes keep a few assistants from the previous regime. Often a highly regarded coordinator is kept around to smooth the transition, or because he has time remaining on his contract.

That's good for the coordinator, who does not have to search for a new job, but bad for the assistant who held that position under the head coach at his previous employer.

In a worst-case scenario, a valuable assistant with time left on his contract is left in limbo—some would say “held hostage”—while his team searches for a new head coach. The assistant is under no guarantee that the new

boss will keep him, but because he's a valuable commodity, his team does not want anyone else to hire him in the meantime.

**As the marathon search for a new head coach dragged on, Kiffin and Marinelli lost out on potential gigs for which they might have been considered the front-runners.**

If the new head coach cuts the assistant loose, he still receives the balance of his contract. But given the narrow window of the coaching merry-go-round, it's likely the assistant already has lost out on jobs for the following season.

Much of this chess game unfolded in January and early February in Tampa Bay and Indianapolis. After Dungy was fired, the Buccaneer ownership did not release sought-after defensive assistants such as Monte Kiffin and Rod Marinelli. As the marathon search for a new head coach dragged on, Kiffin and Marinelli lost out on potential gigs for which they might have been considered the front-runners.

Buccaneer ownership, which fired Dungy in large part because his offense continually struggled, allowed his offensive assistants to look for work, and four of them joined Dungy with the Colts. But Marinelli, the Buccaneers' defensive line coach, was denied the chance to become Dungy's defensive coordinator in Indianapolis.

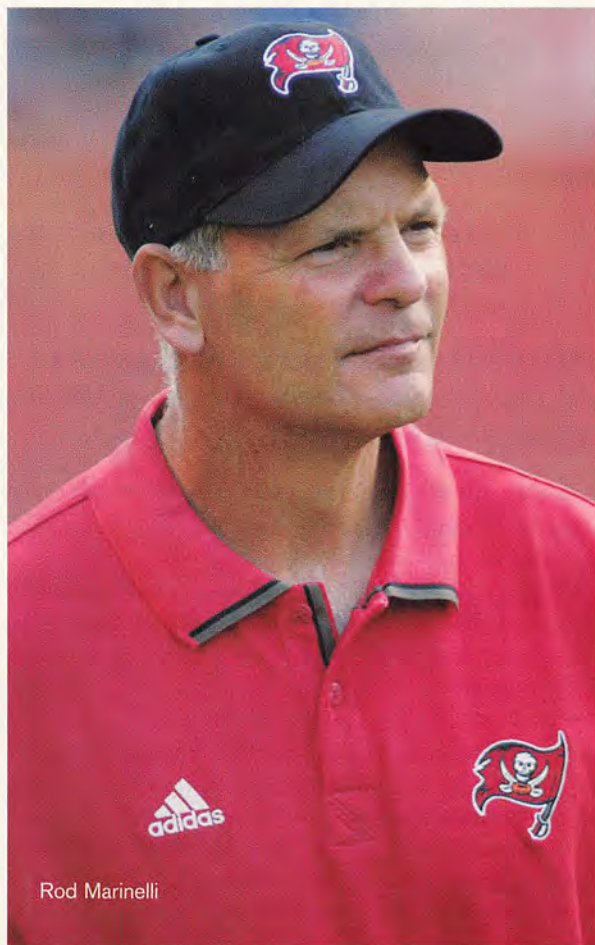
A year earlier, Marinelli would have been eligible to jump

ship. Until 2001, when the NFL changed a policy, assistants under contract could be approached by other teams if they were being interviewed for a promotion. To appease Marinelli, new Bucs coach Jon Gruden promoted him to assistant head coach.

Unlike job-seekers in regular corporate life, assistant coaches don't send out resumes. Instead, they head to the annual Senior Bowl, which is as much a job fair for assistants as it is a scouting mission. While assistants keep one eye on the draft-eligible players in the week leading up to the late-January game, they keep their other eye on potential employers.



Monte Kiffin



Rod Marinelli

The Mobile, Alabama, college all-star game coincides with the heaviest period of NFL coaching movement. Many jobless assistants use the event to touch base with potential employers. For those held in limbo, it can be torture. Not only are they scouting for a team they might not be working for in the fall, they can't talk to would-be employers.

“The whole process is difficult because of all of the uncertainty,” says Kiffin, who retained his job as Tampa Bay defensive coordinator under Gruden. “All you can do is realize that it's the nature of the business and hope everything works out.”

—Pete Williams



11

## Will the Texans do what the Oilers couldn't in Houston—**make it to a Super Bowl?**

If they're anything like their owner, they will. Robert C. McNair is no stranger to competition as he brings the Houston Texans into the National Football League this season. His experience has just been on a turf of another variety.

The Texans' majority owner earned his fortune as founder of Cogen Technologies, a large, privately owned energy concern which he wisely, if not fortuitously, sold in 1999 to Enron Corp.

McNair's sporting side became known in 1994 when he started in the thoroughbred-racing business with Stonerside Stable in Kentucky, which quickly became one of the top horse farms in the country and bred Triple Crown contender Congaree, who finished third in both the Kentucky Derby and Preakness last year.

On the racetrack, McNair steadfastly stuck to an intensive plan of matching quality management personnel with excellent facilities to acquire the top horses. It's a blueprint he believes will work in any field of dreams.

"It's a passion for me," McNair says of horse racing. "And I think it's very similar to football. You have to have quality people of good character, who are trustworthy. They have to be team players."

"This is our eighth year in horse racing, and it took us about five years to put our organization together and get in position to win. So now the pipeline is filled and these top-flight athletes, these horses, will be coming on the racetracks for years to come."

"We have to do the same thing with football. We have to fill that pipeline with more than just one or two quality athletes. We have to have a whole stable."

McNair started in football by winning his biggest race of all—for the 32nd NFL franchise in October 1999. He beat out heavily favored Los Angeles by getting all his ducks in an impressive row, then sitting back and watching L.A. self-destruct.

The beginnings of his NFL team weren't always a magnum opus, however. McNair ignored what appeared to be a strong local desire for a colorful team nickname and seemed doggedly determined to call them Texans from the start. This became obvious in spite of a dog-and-pony show of a "search" for a nickname that turned up hundreds of ideas, some of them even clever. The "finalists" included the popular Stallions, the somewhat NHL-sounding Apollos and, of course, the mightily bland Texans. Toros, another well-liked name, didn't make the final cut.

One local newspaper columnist wrote early on, "Whatever you do, we only hope you don't call them Texans." Still, McNair ignored widespread disparagement of a nickname that had been used no fewer than four previous times by an eclectic assortment of now-defunct losers.

If the nickname wasn't inspired, the personnel hiring seemed to be. McNair scored an immediate coup in landing a highly regarded general manager, Charley Casserly, who had been purged in the Redskins' debacle after Daniel Snyder purchased the team.

Casserly, who has three Super Bowl rings, began bringing in

waves of savvy former Redskins people such as veteran scouts Chuck Banker, Miller McCalmon and Mike Maccagnan. He got strength and conditioning coach Dan Riley, a veteran of 19 NFL seasons and considered among the league's best, from Washington, and also landed head trainer Kevin Bastin, who had spent 12 seasons as the Redskins' assistant trainer. Overnight, there were more staff members wearing Super Bowl rings in the Texans' offices than had ever been seen in 37 years of Oilers staff meetings.

Casserly's most impressive hire was head coach Dom Capers, who had built a team from scratch in Carolina to go 7-9 in 1995, an NFL record for most victories by an expansion team. The Panthers then rolled to a startling 12-4 mark in their second season, playing for the NFC championship.

Not long after hiring Capers, the Texans scored another big triumph by signing renowned offensive coordinator Chris Palmer, another man with expansion head-coaching experience (with Cleveland). Palmer also had a reputation for developing quarterbacks, having worked with Drew Bledsoe, Mark Brunell, Rob Johnson and Tim Couch, among others.

The NFL already knew what a formidable owner McNair would be after he hadn't blinked at the outrageous \$700 million franchise fee. And he didn't stop there. He built a \$400-plus million showplace stadium, complete with a retractable roof much like the former Enron Field across town, only more plush. Reliant Stadium is built on the parking lot of the Astrodome, once considered the "Eighth Wonder of the World" but now looking more like Danny DeVito standing next to Arnold Schwarzenegger in the movie "Twins."

The team simultaneously erected an \$8-million, state-of-the-art training facility across the street, including a 4,000-square-foot structure adjacent to three natural grass fields and an indoor artificial fabric field.

So it has been rapidly apparent that all McNair needs for NFL success are the "horses" to run out on the field. Insiders are betting he gets them very quickly.

—Jim Carley



Robert McNair



## Can Steve Spurrier win, cope with Mr. Snyder and still play golf as coach of the Redskins?

For \$25 million, Steve Spurrier decided he could try juggling for a living. With one eye on Washington Redskins owner Daniel Snyder and the other on the golf course, Spurrier must adapt his magical winning ways at the University of Florida to the NFL—now.

Anything less than a Super Bowl victory this year will be failure for the NFL's most highly paid coach. Being away from the

"He caught 18 touchdowns his last year at Florida and we won the scoring title and the national championship," Spurrier says. "I don't know what happened in Tampa. I'm not into criticizing coaches or players. Who knows what happened? But I've seen him play."

Winning with nothing but reconstituted "Gator-Aid" is a trick rival coaches would love Spurrier to try. But even Spurrier admits that won't be entirely possible.

"I've already told some of our assistant coaches we've got to be prepared to cut some of these Gators, too," he says. "They know that coming in."

No other coach will be watched more closely and no other coach will be more fun to watch. He has turned over his defense to former Baltimore coordinator Marvin Lewis, which means Spurrier will spend all his time drawing up plays.

Actually, not *all* of his time. An inveterate golfer, Spurrier claims he will play "a little less" than he did at Florida, which doesn't mean he will be sleeping in his office instead. Spurrier already pointed out that Jim Haslett's long hours were not well spent in New Orleans.

"I just said all those hours were not beneficial to their team," Spurrier says. "Some work long hours and some not so long. All that counts is what happens in games."

Like most golfers, Spurrier is rationalizing time away from the course.

"It's been a struggle lately," he says. "The way I'm playing, I can't break 80."

As in most things, there is no reason to disbelieve him.

You also get the distinct feeling this coach is laying in the weeds.

—Don Pierson



Dan Snyder and Steve Spurrier

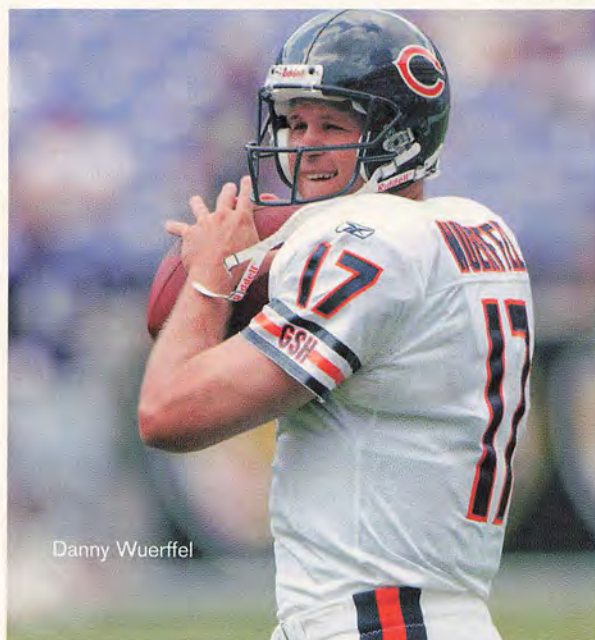
NFL for 25 years since he was a mediocre quarterback for San Francisco and Tampa Bay is no excuse. If Spurrier doesn't win big out of the chute, he will find himself in the same company as Snyder's other three coaches in the last year and a half—Norv Turner, Terry Robiskie and Marty Schottenheimer.

Spurrier probably wouldn't get fired, but who knows? After guaranteeing Schottenheimer his \$10 million for only one year, Snyder proved he's not in the business to save money.

Likewise, Spurrier is not in the business to lose. So confident is he in his offensive system that he believes he can not only win immediately at a higher level, but he can win with a quarterback like Danny Wuerffel. One of the first moves Spurrier made was to trade for his 1996 Heisman Trophy winner at Florida, even though Wuerffel has made only six starts with three NFL teams in five years.

"I know NFL people don't think Danny Wuerffel can play," Spurrier says. "I guess they weren't where I was the four years he played at Florida. I saw all of his games. He's still the highest-rated passer in the history of college football. We won four SEC titles and a national championship with him, so it's difficult for me to believe he can't play."

Spurrier also hastily signed former Florida receiver Reidel Anthony from Tampa Bay, where he underachieved for five years.



Danny Wuerffel



9

## Will Randy Moss **grow up** this season?

**H**e's going to have to. You can't explain Randy Moss any easier than you can cover him. People from NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue on down have tried, Tagliabue saying, "Randy Moss has to be evaluated by what he does on the field and less so by what he says."

This year, what he does will speak louder than what he said last year, when he revealed, then insisted, that he plays football only as hard as he feels like playing at the moment. The reverberations continue, but this is a crucial turning point in his five-year career as star receiver of the Minnesota Vikings.

For the first time, Moss will be going it alone. It is not the same as going one-on-one.

The death of faithful friend and teammate Korey Stringer at the start of last season's training camp had a profound impact on Moss, whose emotional reaction touched anyone who witnessed it. But now Moss has also lost fired coach Dennis Green and mentor Cris Carter, who has moved on. Moss is on the high wire without a net. He once said he wouldn't play for any other

who said, "I know he said that, but you cannot play half-speed. I believe he plays all the time."

Upshaw felt compelled to say something because the issue of guaranteed contracts pushes a hot button for NFL players and owners. Unlike baseball and basketball, most contracts have no guarantees except for bonus money. McCombs, for example, could release Moss now and not be obligated for most of the \$75 million. In baseball, Moss would collect.

NFL players are always trying to goad owners into paying more guaranteed money. Now owners can use Moss as Exhibit A.

Says Tagliabue: "We need to have a system where the motivation to play is not impaired by guaranteed money or by collective-bargaining provisions."

—Don Pierson

**Team owner Red McCombs paid Moss a \$17-million signing bonus on a \$75-million contract extension before last season, only to hear him admit he plays 'when I want to play.'**

coach, and now Green's successor, Mike Tice, gets to find out if that was only the intemperate remark of youth.

"I'm not going to treat Randy one way and have a separate set of rules for everybody else," Tice says.

Tice also says: "We did a study and found that in four of the five games that we threw in Randy's direction 40 percent of the time, we won. And the other game, against Pittsburgh, we almost won. He will be the focal point of our offense. Randy's whole deal is frustration."

Moss's talent abounds, and at age 25 he is just coming into his athletic prime. As Carter tried to explain, "Probably 99 percent of the players in the league have less ability than Randy has. For the rest of us, we know that we have to give our absolute best to even perform in the NFL."

Will Moss assume Carter's role of sideline cheerleader/taskmaster, bossing and shoving and demanding? Or will teammates such as quarterback Daunte Culpepper question Moss' credentials?

When Moss was fined \$15,000 for verbally abusing a group of corporate sponsors on a team bus, it was evidence that Green either couldn't control his star any longer or gave up trying.

Team owner Red McCombs paid Moss a \$17-million signing bonus on a \$75-million contract extension before last season, only to hear him admit he plays "when I want to play."

Such a thought took on a life of its own and was addressed by NFL Players Association Executive Director Gene Upshaw,





## Who were last season's biggest underachievers?

**T**o underachieve on the NFL stage is to fall flat in a tub of goo. Or maybe it's to show up as a tub of goo. Like Saints defensive tackle Norman Hand, for instance.

Observers said Hand sent the Saints looking for a truck scale when he showed up for training camp last season. Somewhere way over 300 pounds, Hand still was expected to improve on a 2000 season in which he helped lead the sack-happiest team in the league by stuffing the middle for 65 tackles, as New Orleans won the NFC West.

But last year, Hand couldn't grab a runner with both hands. He appeared woefully out of shape and soft most of the year, totaling 25 tackles when the Saint defense badly could have used a hand. New Orleans plummeted from 10-6 to 7-9.

Slumping seemed to be a contagious disease among defensive linemen around the league last season. Take Tampa Bay's Warren

Sapp and Tennessee's Kevin Carter. Sapp had 16.5 sacks in 2000, then dipped to six in a 2001 season highlighted by a much-publicized feud with Keyshawn Johnson, who said Sapp was dogging it.

Carter was advertised in preseason as the top sack-master in the NFL. The previous three seasons, he recorded 39.5 sacks. Last season, he earned a grand total of two, as the Titans' defense melted down.

Then there was Darrell Russell, the Raiders defensive tackle with all the ability in the world. The former

first-round pick was suspended twice, played only 11 games and ended up with 2.5 sacks. The Raider defense, which had difficulty stopping the run, needed him badly.

Other underachievers?

Perhaps the most highly visible was Randy Moss, who said he played when he "felt like it" and virtually disappeared when the Vikings needed him most. He became a team cancer and some said his 82 catches were the most misleading stat in the league.

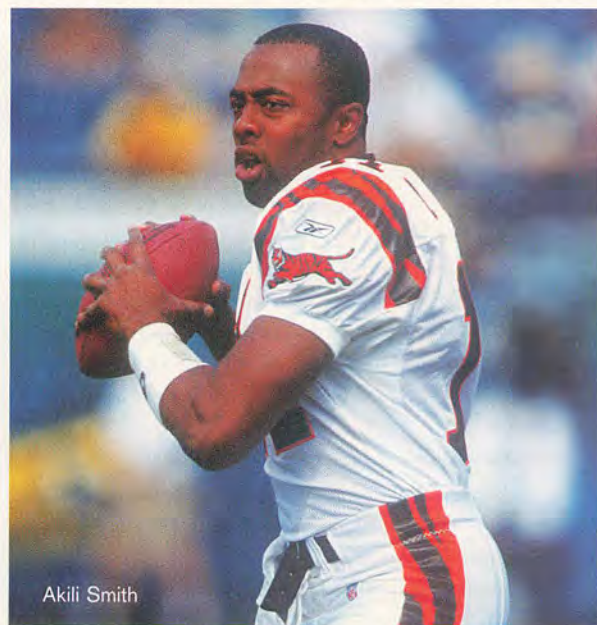
Quarterbacks Rob Johnson, Elvis Grbac, Doug Flutie and Trent Green had disappointing years—all had more interceptions than touchdown passes—but none was a bigger bust than Akili Smith, Cincinnati's No. 1 pick in 1999 who watched as someone named Jon Kitna guided the hapless Bengal offense. The jury is still out on whether Smith will ever be a pro QB.

There was also former Miami running back Lamar Smith (no relation), who followed his big 2000 season (1,139 yards and 14 TDs) with a 968-yard effort that included as many fumbles (six)

as touchdowns. Scouts said Smith didn't run as hard as he had the previous season, and it showed in a per-carry average that dropped from 3.7 to 3.1. He will try to rebound at Carolina.

And Jets fans will not soon forget Matthew Hatchette. NFL personnel people said all the speedy wide receiver needed was a chance to get out from under the shadow of playing behind Cris Carter and Moss in Minnesota. So the Jets gave him nearly a million bucks as an unrestricted free agent last year, touting his big-play capabilities. Hatchette spent most of the season on the sidelines, catching only two of the 11 passes thrown his way. It figured out to about \$475,000 per catch.

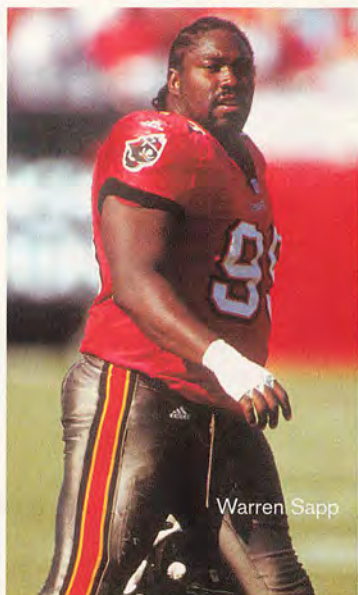
Then, of course, there once again were quarterbacks Ryan Leaf (working on his third team in four years) and Jeff George (cut by his fifth team, the Redskins, last year). Leaf, who had his latest flop with the Cowboys, is still considered the "proto-



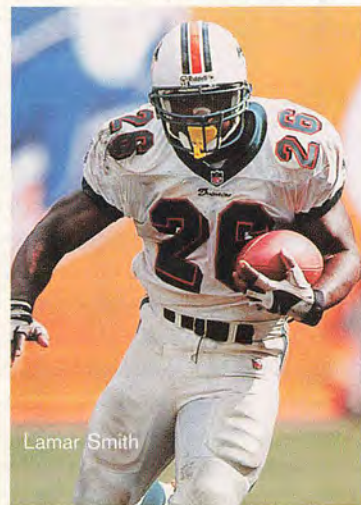
Akili Smith

type" NFL quarterback, but few now believe he'll ever be a "real" NFL quarterback. George has been widely known around the league as the best arm without a heart, and he probably saw his career end. Both will be first in line should the NFL ever open up an Underachievers Hall of Fame.

—Jim Carley



Warren Sapp



Lamar Smith



7

## In a season of Cinderella stories, who were the **biggest overachievers** of 2001?

**S**ome folks believe Kurt Warner might have retired the NFL "Overachievers Trophy" for all time when he came out of nowhere to lead the Rams to the 1999 Super Bowl championship. But 2001 had its share of Cinderella stories as well.

And Patriots quarterback Tom Brady was at the top. A sixth-round draft choice in 2000, Brady was the 199th player picked that year and predictably toiled in anonymity his first season. He entered last year as No. 4 on the Patriots' depth chart, three slots behind three-time Pro Bowler Drew Bledsoe. It appeared that if Brady could play real well in training camp, he might have a good year of holding a clipboard on the sideline.

But as everyone knows, Brady fought his way to be Bledsoe's backup, then ascended to the No. 1 job when Bledsoe went down. The rest, as they say, is history, as the Patriots became the "Brady Bunch" en route to the Super Bowl title. He capped a 2,843-yard passing season with the Super Bowl MVP award.

But Brady wasn't the only overachiever on one of the most overachieving teams of all time. The Pats picked Antowain Smith off the scrap heap after Buffalo thought he was no longer a player, and he rushed for 1,157 yards and 12 touchdowns. And Troy Brown, a 30-year-old wide receiver who once was cut by

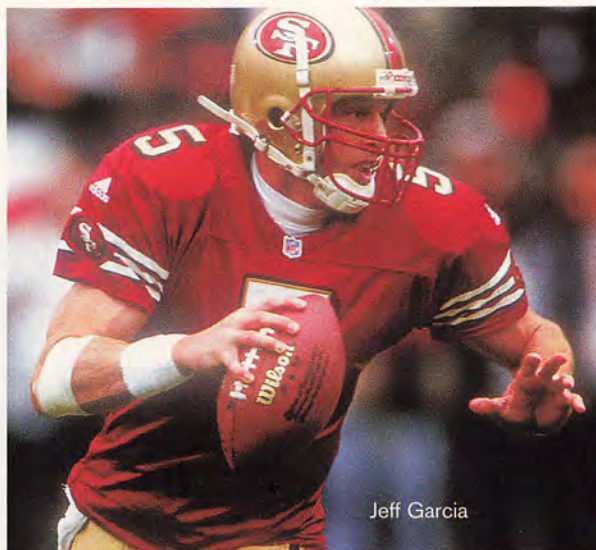
the Pats, stuck around long enough to surprise everyone, catching a career-high 101 passes for 1,199 yards.

The Patriots may have possessed football's most high-profile overachievers, but nobody came from further out of obscurity to stardom than Dominic Rhodes. He was the undersized (5-9) running back out of tiny Midwestern State who stayed on campus summer before last because he wanted to see the Dallas Cowboys,

who hold their training camp at the small Division II school in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Rhodes drove a van for the Cowboys during that training camp and decided, just by watching them, "I can play with these guys." Alas, the Cowboys' once-vaunted scouting system still wasn't able to find Rhodes, and Dallas didn't draft him. Of course, neither did anyone else. Twenty running backs were taken in last year's NFL Draft, and the name of Rhodes, who had been told he might go in the fourth or fifth rounds, was never called.

But Indianapolis took a flyer on Rhodes and invited him to camp. Six games into the season, star Edgerrin James went



Jeff Garcia

down with a season-ending knee injury and up sprouted Rhodes. He went on to rush for 1,104 yards and become the first undrafted rookie in NFL history to gain more than 1,000.

There were plenty of other overachievers in a 2001 season of surprises:

Running back Priest Holmes was a sixth-round pick in 1999 who had one good year in Baltimore before the Ravens gave up on him last year.

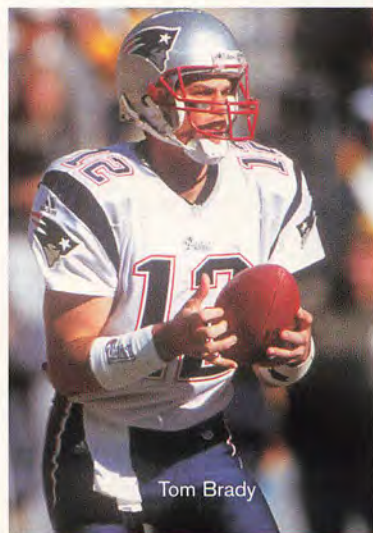
All he did was lead the league in rushing with 1,555 yards.

San Francisco's Jeff Garcia was a quarterback everyone said was too small and didn't have the big gun for an arm. But he has found a home in the West Coast offense that doesn't emphasize the long game and helped resurrect the 49ers' offense with 3,538 passing yards.

Another 49er, running back Garrison Hearst, came back from what many thought would be a career-ending ankle injury to rush for 1,206 yards.

Last but not least was Chicago wide receiver Marty Booker, who stepped up when top receiver Marcus Robinson was hurt and caught 100 passes for 1,071 yards and eight touchdowns.

—Jim Carley



Tom Brady



Garrison Hearst



## When is Mike Martz going to figure out that there's more than one way to win?

**S**omebody has to tap Mike Martz on the shoulder, whisper into his ear, hack into his computer brain. Sometimes, football games don't evolve the way coaches draw them up in their dreams. Sometimes, ugly is beautiful.

The coach of the St. Louis Rams claims no genius and

"What I wanted to do is come out fast and furious because we'd thrown the ball so successfully in the November 18 game (when the Rams won at New England 24-17) and were able to protect Kurt in the first game," Martz told *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. "I felt like we could do the same thing. And then going into the

second half, I would've liked to have iced the thing by handing Marshall the ball.

"But we turned the ball over, and we got behind 14-3, so then we're in a different circumstance. When they go up 17-3, you've got no choice, then. You've just got to say, 'Hey, we're going to have to throw it.'"

Belichick fooled Martz by opting for coverage rather than the blitzes the Rams enjoyed beating in the first game. The Patriots also beat up the Rams, taking advantage of loosely called contact rules. Receiver Isaac Bruce suffered broken ribs on the first series and Warner reinjured his throwing thumb in the first quarter. All the more reason to adjust and hand off to Faulk.

But Rams players swear by Martz, not at him. His

total confidence in their abilities energizes and motivates them to perform at levels that frighten most defensive coordinators. They play with no fear or caution.

**Don't expect Martz to change his approach. When the mode is attack, attack, attack, there's no room—no need—for counterattacks.**

"Players sell out on this team for coach Martz because he gives you that trust," tight end Ernie Conwell says. "He exudes that confidence in you. As a player, that's a great feeling."

Don't expect Martz to change his approach. When the mode is attack, attack, attack, there's no room—no need—for counterattacks. The only counterattack he's planning is to get back to the Super Bowl every year.

"If you expect to win year-in and year-out, you've got to talk about those things," Martz says. "It's OK to dream. If you fall short, you fall short."

—Don Pierson



proved it in the Super Bowl, falling into the defensive traps of New England's Bill Belichick. Martz thinks his players are so good and his plans so sound that games are choreographed instead of played.

During another high-scoring season, the Rams drew the ire of rivals for never admitting defeat, only failure. The only team that could beat the Rams, they claimed, was the Rams.

But football is often more complicated than that. It usually involves struggle where the Rams prefer ease. It often involves reaction where the Rams prefer dictation.

Against the Philadelphia Eagles in the NFC title game, Martz made unusual concessions to his "Greatest Show on Turf" by coming down to earth and running Marshall Faulk seven straight times to start the second half. But the next week, against the Patriots on the Super Bowl stage, Faulk carried only 10 times in the first half while Kurt Warner threw 20 times. Against Belichick's daring schemes of five, six and seven defensive backs, what if Faulk had run 20 times to Warner's 10 passes? Just wondering.



5

## Why is Marvin Lewis not a head coach today?

**F**or a few minutes anyway, Marvin Lewis thought he was head coach of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He thought General Manager Rich McKay had hired him to succeed the fired Tony Dungy. McKay thought he had the authority to hire Lewis.

Then Lewis met with the sons of team owner Malcolm Glazer—Joel, Bryan and Ed—and wound up as defensive coordinator of the Washington Redskins.

For a few minutes, the Baltimore Ravens thought Lewis had promised to stay as their defensive coordinator. Don't blame Lewis if he is confused. It runs in the family of NFL hiring-and-firing practices. In the end, Lewis decided to join the Redskins because owner Daniel Snyder made him the highest-paid coordinator in the game at \$850,000 a year.

To be sure, Lewis would have preferred the top job in Tampa, or anywhere else, even at a lower price. But Lewis isn't the only successful assistant coach wondering why he has been left at the altar. Lewis isn't even the only successful African-American assistant wondering.

**So Marvin Lewis can't be blamed for grabbing all the cash he could following his Tampa fiasco. While telling the Ravens he intended to stay, his agent was still negotiating with the Redskins.**

Ted Cottrell, defensive coordinator of the New York Jets, coached the NFL's No. 1 defense in 1999 with the Buffalo Bills and didn't get a sniff. When Lewis coached the record-breaking defense of the Super Bowl champion Ravens in 2000, one of the coaching jobs that passed him by was in Buffalo, where Gregg Williams beat him out. Williams was defensive coordinator of the Tennessee Titans, who happened to beat out Lewis' Ravens as the No. 1 defense in 2000, even though the Ravens set records against scoring and won the Super Bowl.

Lewis has a right to wonder, but so does Pittsburgh Steelers defensive coordinator Tim Lewis (no relation), who coached the No. 1 defense in 2001. So does St. Louis Rams defensive coordinator Lovie Smith, who coached the No. 3 defense. All are black coaches, yet the NFL goes into the 2002 season with only two black head coaches—Dungy of the Indianapolis Colts and Herman Edwards of the New York Jets. With the firing of Dennis Green of the Minnesota Vikings, the dean of NFL coaches, the league has one fewer black head coach than it did a year ago.

Dungy, fired by Tampa, joined San Diego's Marty Schottenheimer, Houston's Dom Capers and Tampa's Jon Gruden in the NFL coaching recycle bin. If this represents progress for black coaches, it's a very small step, but at least Dungy joins Ray Rhodes (Philadelphia and Green Bay) as the second African-American ever to be recycled. Former Oakland coach Art Shell is still waiting despite a solid 57-44 career record.

The Carolina Panthers hired New York Giants defensive



coordinator John Fox to be their new head coach. Fox's defense lost to Lewis in the 2000 Super Bowl and finished 14th last year.

Eventually, Marvin Lewis will get his chance, they say. Sherman Lewis (no relation) heard the same thing when he was offensive coordinator at Green Bay after years with the successful San Francisco 49ers. The Detroit Lions assistant head coach, who was part of the Dennis Green purge in Minnesota, is still waiting for his chance.

So Marvin Lewis can't be blamed for grabbing all the cash he could following his Tampa fiasco. While telling the Ravens he intended to stay, his agent was still negotiating with the Redskins.

"You love the game, have a great passion for the game, but we also do this to take care of my children for the rest of their life," Lewis says.

—Don Pierson



## Jerry Rice will **play wide receiver at age 40** this season. How is that possible?

**J**erry Rice turns four decades old in October. The trick in understanding how he can do this is realizing that you are looking at Jerry Rice at 24.

The lines in his face are deeper; you can probably stand a dime in some of them. But his eyes still glow as they did when it first occurred to him early in his second year with the 49ers that he could really be the best wide receiver ever to play.

He took his knee injury. He took San Francisco's decision to highlight Terrell Owens (and thereby stick their heads in a tiger's yap). He took his trip to Oakland. And he won it all back—his

**He runs out every pattern as though there was money at the end of it, and he still runs to the end zone at top speed after every catch, because old habits have kept him young.**

reputation, his joy at being a focal point of a good offense, and especially his status as the textbook for all other wide receivers.

His diet remains as it did in his formative years. No late-night chats into a clown's mouth for him. His offseason training habits remain as they did (repetition after repetition, finding steep hills to sprint and quarterbacks to throw him passes until his hands ache). He runs out every pattern as though there was money at the end of it, and he still runs to the end zone at top speed after every catch, because old habits have kept him young.

He is such a creature of habit that it didn't take the other Raider receivers, even Tim Brown, to catch on to the Rice Way. He didn't have to preach, or nag, or cajole. He ran his patterns, he waited for Jerry Porter and the other young receivers to ask their questions, and he showed them all what it takes to be like Jerry.

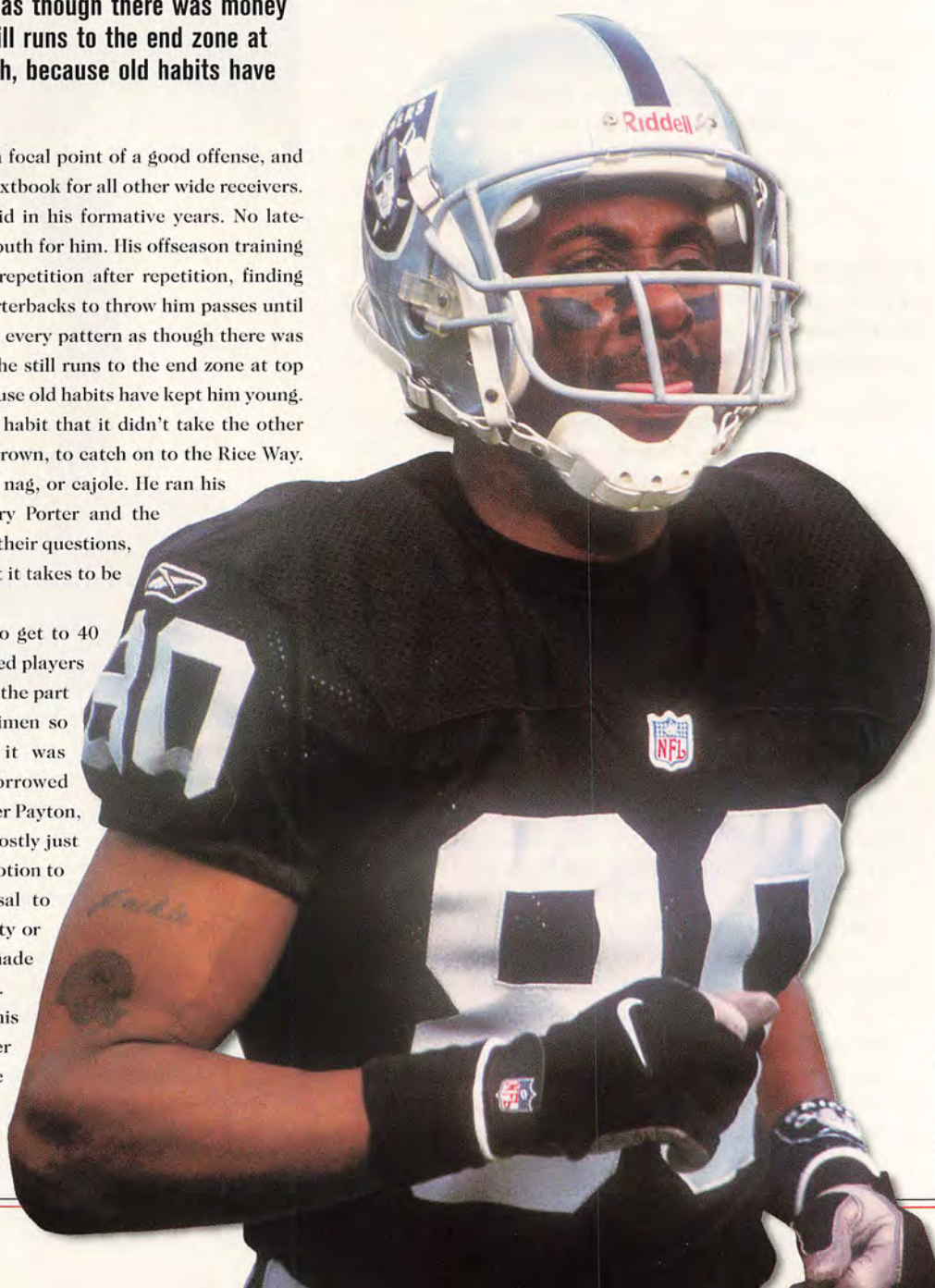
Ahh, but to be Jerry? To get to 40 when other supremely devoted players flame out far sooner? That's the part that makes his training regimen so fascinating. Even though it was never truly unique—he borrowed some of it from the late Walter Payton, proving that innovation is mostly just ratcheting old ideas—his devotion to that regimen and his refusal to accept the laws of age, gravity or coaches' judgments have made Jerry Rice ... well, Jerry Rice.

This may end up being his last year, because who ever heard of a 41-year-old wide receiver? But he has been on his last year for each of the last four, and the best way

to get him to be Jerry Rice at 41 is to tell him that he can't be.

That's the biggest thing of all with Rice—his pathological inability to understand the phrase "that's enough." It fuels him every day, so that he never spends a day out of shape, he never cuts a workout short, he never cheats on a drill, he never "doesn't feel like it." That's why we are speaking of Jerry Rice at 40. He always feels like it.

—Ray Ratto



TOMASSO DE ROSA



3

## What's Jon Gruden like when he's not making all those scary faces on the sidelines?

**W**hen he was coaching the Oakland Raiders out of their bad habits, Jon Gruden used to show up to work at 4 a.m., work feverishly to change both the culture and the results, then get home in time to kiss his kids good night, talk with the wife and then hit the sack to start the process again the next day.

The idea was not only to get his own work done, it was to show his players that football wasn't a 9-to-5 deal if you wanted to be on 12-and-4 team.

So now he's in Tampa, closer to his parents and siblings, and his daily regime will change dramatically. He'll be at the office at 4 a.m. *Eastern Daylight Time*.

The Bucs are better off than were the Raiders when he came to Oakland four years ago. They've at least made the play-offs, anyway, and Gruden's advertised specialty, offensive football, is what the Bucs have been lacking. So he came east, tripling his salary, quadrupling his pressure, and bringing every one of the faces he showed in Oakland.

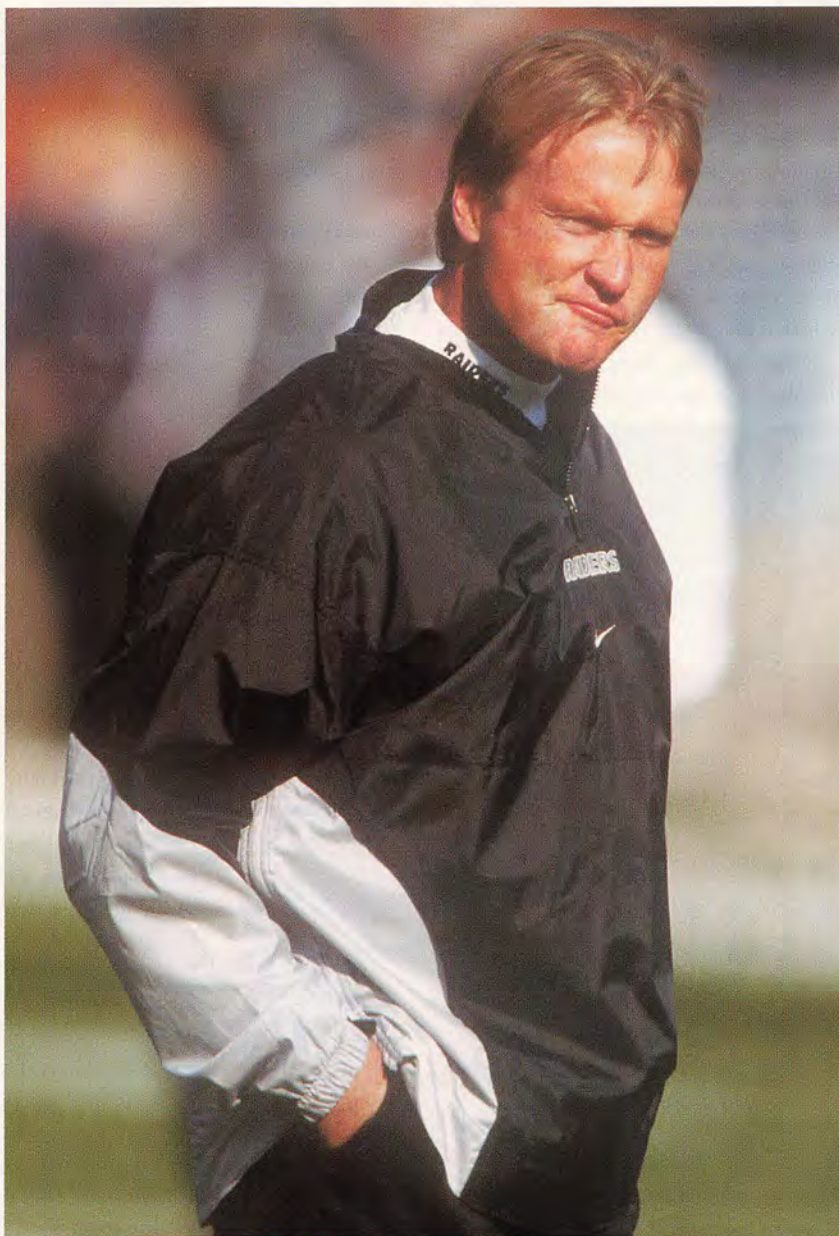
Gruden's rubberized face, the one that can do anything except perhaps swallow itself, has been used as the prime example of his fiendish intensity. It, and 25 wins in two years with the Raiders, made him the prime coaching

**He will find the team leaders, win them over to his philosophy, bark at them when they forget, and win them over before Game One.**

target of the offseason, even though he and agent Bob LaMonte had to work their way out of the last year of his contract with Oakland owner Al Davis.

Having done so, Gruden brings not just his "Hundred Looks" but a wholly player-friendly demeanor that interestingly enough coincides with that of the player-friendly Tony Dungy, who was fired in Tampa to become the player-friendly coach of the Indianapolis Colts. It is a staple of football that you always replace a player-friendly coach with a hard-nose, and vice versa. But after missing out on player-less-than-friendly Bill Parcells, the Flying Glazer Brothers, owners of the Bucs, seized upon Gruden and gave him all the blanché his carte could manage.

So Gruden will show up early, and induce his quarterbacks to



join him for some Krispy Kreme-fortified film sessions. He will charm the roster into giving its all to elevate the Bucs from first-round Miss Congenialities to Super Bowl contenders. He will find the team leaders, win them over to his philosophy, bark at them when they forget, and win them over before Game One. He will schmooze the writers, who will fall for his P.R. gifts. And he will get the work done, all in time to get home in time to kiss the kids good night, spend some time with his wife, and start the process all over again.

He just has to do it three hours earlier. This curvature of the earth thing can be a real problem sometimes.

—Ray Ratto



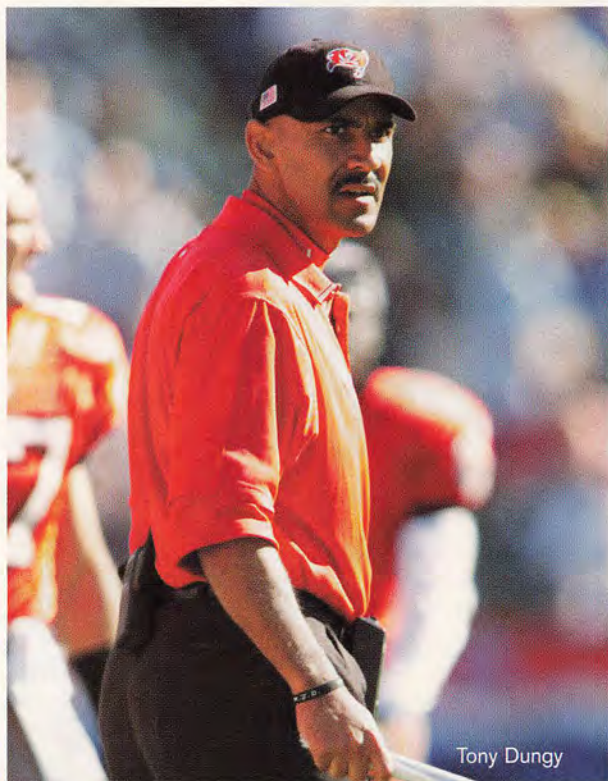
## Of the new head coaches, who has the best chance of success—and who hasn't a prayer?

**E**xpect Tony Dungy of Indianapolis to be the most successful and Carolina's John Fox to be the least successful.

Dungy, who guided the Buccaneers to the playoffs in four of the last five years, takes over a franchise that dropped from a division champion to a wild-card team to a 6-10 also-ran over the last three seasons.

At Tampa Bay, Dungy's approach was to play conservative on offense, with an emphasis on protecting the ball. He utilized a sound defensive philosophy built around a bend-but-don't-break style that relied heavily on forcing turnovers to shorten the field.

With the Colts, Dungy has taken over the second-most prolific offense in the NFL. He retained offensive coordinator Tom



Tony Dungy

Moore, a longtime friend. But Dungy won't allow the Colts to be as helter-skelter on offense. The idea is to severely reduce

**Fox, who built a reputation as one of the league's best defensive coordinators with the Giants, has taken over one of the worst teams in NFL history.**

Peyton Manning's 23 interceptions by decreasing his high-risk passes and by playing better defense to avoid falling behind.

Under Dungy, the Colts' defense will be significantly improved over the unit that ranked 29th last season, including 25th against the run and 27th against the pass. The players will be more intelligent, enthusiastic, confident and consistent under Dungy.



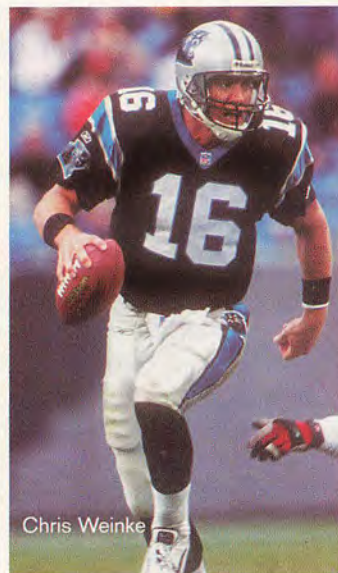
John Fox

Fox, who built a reputation as one of the league's best defensive coordinators with the Giants, has taken over one of the worst teams in NFL history. After winning their first game last season, the Panthers lost a league-record 15 in a row, including seven by four or fewer points.

Not only were they a league-worst 1-15, but they couldn't have been much worse statistically. They were 30th in offense, including 29th rushing and 26th passing. They were even worse defensively, ranking 31st in yards allowed, 31st against the run and 28th against the pass.

Carolina's running game was pathetic, and it did nothing substantial to improve it. Quarterback Chris Weinke led the team with six of its nine rushing touchdowns. The Panthers let leading receiver Donald Hayes leave as a free agent and waived cornerback Doug Evans, who had a team-high eight interceptions. Some of the free agents they signed made longtime followers of the team wonder if they had watched game tape of them.

—John McClain



Chris Weinke

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: WADE NASH; TOMASSO DE ROSA (2)



## 1

How do **sub-300-pound** offensive linemen survive today?

It's not easy, but there's a slowly shrinking cadre of players who continue to show that size isn't everything. Brad Hopkins is small. Dave Fiore is pint-sized. And Mark Stepnoski, well, he's positively petite.

Sure, Hopkins is 6-foot-3 and 298 pounds, Fiore is 6-4 and 290 pounds and Stepnoski is 6-2, 265 pounds—hardly Lilliputian by real-world standards. But they earn their livings as offensive linemen in an era when 320 pounds is normal and 350 pounds is no longer off the charts.

The evolution of offensive linemen has accelerated in the last decade. In the 1960s, offensive lines averaged about 230 pounds. By the early 1980s, they'd reached about 250 pounds. Now, virtually every offensive line averages at least 300 pounds. Indeed, Stepnoski, starting center for the Dallas Cowboys, has four linemates checking in at more than 325 pounds.

While 300-pounders started appearing in the 1980s, the Chicago Bears' William "The Refrigerator" Perry was considered gargantuan at 308 pounds in 1986. A decade ago, fewer than 40 NFL players topped 300 pounds. Now there are nearly 300.

The growth spurt started with weight training but soared with steroid use in the 1980s. The league has largely stamped out steroid use, although rumors persist about hidden problems. Either way, supplements like creatine and androstenedione have emerged. Mike Munchak, Tennessee Titan offensive line coach and a Hall-of-Fame lineman, says money is also a factor. Earlier generations worked second jobs in the off-season, while today's well-paid linemen work out instead, on equipment that keeps getting better. Other players use that money to live large, he adds, often producing unseemly offseason weight gains.

"Yo-yoing"—rapid weight gain and loss—is a common problem, says Indianapolis Colts offensive line coach Howard Mudd, and should be a "red flag" for coaches. (Indeed, it can be dangerous and even deadly. Korey Stringer's death from overheating during Minnesota Viking workouts in 2001 was attributed to his body fat and extreme weight changes; he had blimped from 330 pounds to 388 before reporting in 2001 at 335.) Everything, from doping to overeating to sophisticated weight training has trickled down to colleges and high schools, where the perception is that only 300-pounders have a shot at the NFL.

Heft has undeniable advantages, but these men are among a sturdy group proving it's possible to survive in the trenches without breaking the scales. "The only thing I care about is getting the job done," says Mudd, who had four starting linemen under 300 pounds and one of the league's top offenses. "You just have to stay between your guy and the ball carrier. There are a lot of ways to do it. You don't have to knock a guy off the ball. You might be able to finesse him with leverage and agility."

Still, being "small" has definite disadvantages. Larger linemen are harder to push around, Hopkins says. And with offensive lines beefing up, defensive tackles escalated the pound race trying to stuff the run. Stepnoski is sometimes 60 pounds lighter

than his opponents. "That wasn't really an issue when I came into the league," says the 13-year veteran.

Fiore, a sixth-year guard for the San Francisco 49ers, says the problem becomes particularly acute after a team with mammoth linemen like the Baltimore Ravens wins the Super Bowl.

Mudd says lightweights can compensate with good leverage (enabling them to get underneath the pad level of their opponent), better speed, footwork, flexibility and balance. "The premium is on agility," he says.

Munchak adds that teams with run-and-gun passing attacks or trapping and pulling running games particularly benefit from these relative pipsqueaks, with their ability to get 20 yards downfield to make a block and finish a play at full-steam.

Fiore contemplated adding brawn but decided to focus on improving his technique instead. Stepnoski adds that gaining strength could deprive him of the conditioning and quickness crucial to his job. "If a defensive tackle plays a wide shade, creating a gap, you have all that ground to cover," he says. "The extra weight would make it difficult to get to your spot."

Munchak encourages players to play lighter, saying it will offset the loss of speed that comes with age. Plenty of linemen are overweight, he adds, using extra bulk as a crutch, for confidence. "They could be 15 pounds lighter without losing strength."

In fact, Hopkins, the Titans' left tackle, used to be one of the big boys and believes he has improved since slimming down. The nine-year veteran started off at 336 pounds and soon ate his way to 346. But in 1996 Hopkins began a running regimen, and now plays at around 298 pounds. He believes it transformed his career.

"I used to have a lot of pop during the first two quarters, but by the third quarter I was gassed," he says, boasting he's now more mobile and can last "well into overtime."

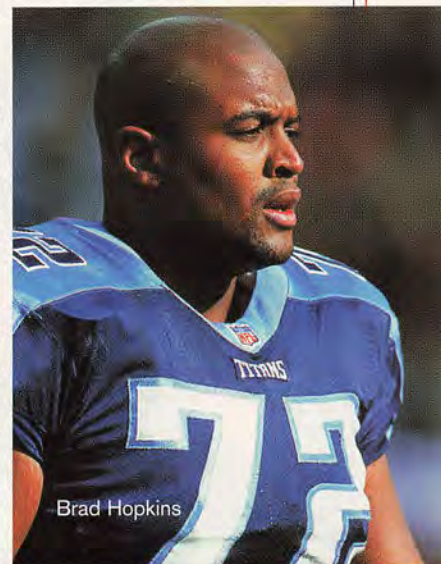
"When you're tired, your technique gets sloppy," he says. "You've got to have discipline. And technique—your hand placement, your footwork—is the difference between good linemen and great linemen."

Munchak says things might "cycle back a bit" toward smaller linemen, particularly if 3-4 defenses catch on, since chasing down quick linebackers is a small man's game.

Hopkins is doubtful.

"The trend is to be huge," he says. "We might be the last of a dying breed."

—Stuart Miller



Brad Hopkins





## Vick's Pick



**WHILE GROWING UP, FALCON QUARTERBACK MICHAEL VICK TOOK INSPIRATION FROM ANOTHER ELUSIVE LEFTY QB, FORMER 49ER GREAT STEVE YOUNG.**

by Michael Vick with Michael J. Fresina



**M**ichael Jordan might be the greatest athlete of all time. Every guy my age wanted to “be like Mike” at some point. Many still do. In fact, he’s one of the few people I get excited about when I have a chance to see him. But I’m a football guy. I was raised on football. Most of my heroes are football players, but one stands out more than any other.

Growing up in Virginia, you basically had two choices for NFL teams to root for: the Redskins or whatever West Coast team happened to be good at the time and was on TV a lot. I never got into the Redskins as much as most of my friends. Now, all the same guys say they’re Falcons fans. Funny how that happens, huh?

Because I wasn’t into the Redskins and the 49ers were on TV just about every Sunday, I became a big-time San Francisco fan.

Most people think of Joe Montana when they think of the ‘Niners. Not me. I’m a Steve Young guy. Maybe I was too young to be a

Montana fan, but I really remember looking up to Steve Young.

Steve Young did it all, won it all—and it didn’t happen overnight. No doubt, he had enough talent to excel in the NFL when he came out of BYU, but he struggled at first. (Young played his initial pro seasons with the Los Angeles Express of the USFL.) His days in Tampa Bay were tough, but then he found himself in San Francisco.

Able to study as Joe Montana’s backup, Young refined his game. He never complained or divided the team. He knew Joe was the guy. Young didn’t play much or get much attention, but took advantage of Montana’s expertise, learning how to be a champion.

When Young got his turn, it was awesome. He is one of the greatest quarterbacks to ever play the game. He played smart, made all the right reads, but was also gritty, tough and competitive. There never seemed to be a “broken play” when the ball was in his hands and the team under his command.

He played with such finesse that sometimes he was more dangerous *after* he was flushed from the pocket. Defenses had to wonder, “Is he gonna run? Is he gonna pass?” He kept everyone, including me—sitting on an old couch in Virginia—on the edge of their seat.

Sure, those are the reasons a lot of people looked up to Steve Young. For me, there was an added bonus to watching him: he’s a left-handed quarterback. There haven’t been that many left-handed quarterbacks in the NFL. As a kid, trying to be a better football player, it was easier for me to study Young’s mechanics than those of any other QB. I would watch his drops, his release, the way he scanned the field and held the ball. Then, I would try to imitate him in the yard, at practice or in games.

I loved the way he approached the game, too. He did everything with class and toughness. He didn’t need to talk trash to be a leader on the field. He took some serious hits and bounced back, straight to the huddle—almost every time.

It is too bad that he needed to retire, but I think he did the right thing. What more could he have accomplished? He had an amazing career and will always be remembered among the best ever to play the position. He’s got a life to live beyond football.

He’s an attorney. He’s got a family. He’s even gone into television now, where I think he’s doing a great job. Obviously, his years of experience make him credible as a commentator. I like that he still gets fired up talking football. In fact, I’m going to continue to keep an eye on him. I might want to go into broadcasting when I am done playing.

It’s funny. You would think that in recent years my path and Young’s would have crossed, but we’ve never met. I hope to meet him one day. If I’m not too nervous, I’ll thank him for being such a great role model—just shake his hand and thank him.

TOMASSO DE ROSA



# 2002 PREDICTIONS

## AFC EAST

1. New England Patriots
2. Miami Dolphins
3. New York Jets
4. Buffalo Bills

## AFC NORTH

1. Pittsburgh Steelers
2. Cleveland Browns
3. Baltimore Ravens
4. Cincinnati Bengals

## AFC SOUTH

1. Tennessee Titans
2. Indianapolis Colts
3. Jacksonville Jaguars
4. Houston Texans

## AFC WEST

1. Denver Broncos
2. Oakland Raiders
3. San Diego Chargers
4. Kansas City Chiefs

## NFC EAST

1. Philadelphia Eagles
2. Washington Redskins
3. Dallas Cowboys
4. New York Giants

## NFC NORTH

1. Green Bay Packers
2. Chicago Bears
3. Minnesota Vikings
4. Detroit Lions

## NFC SOUTH

1. Tampa Bay Buccaneers
2. New Orleans Saints
3. Atlanta Falcons
4. Carolina Panthers

## NFC WEST

1. St. Louis Rams
2. San Francisco 49ers
3. Seattle Seahawks
4. Arizona Cardinals

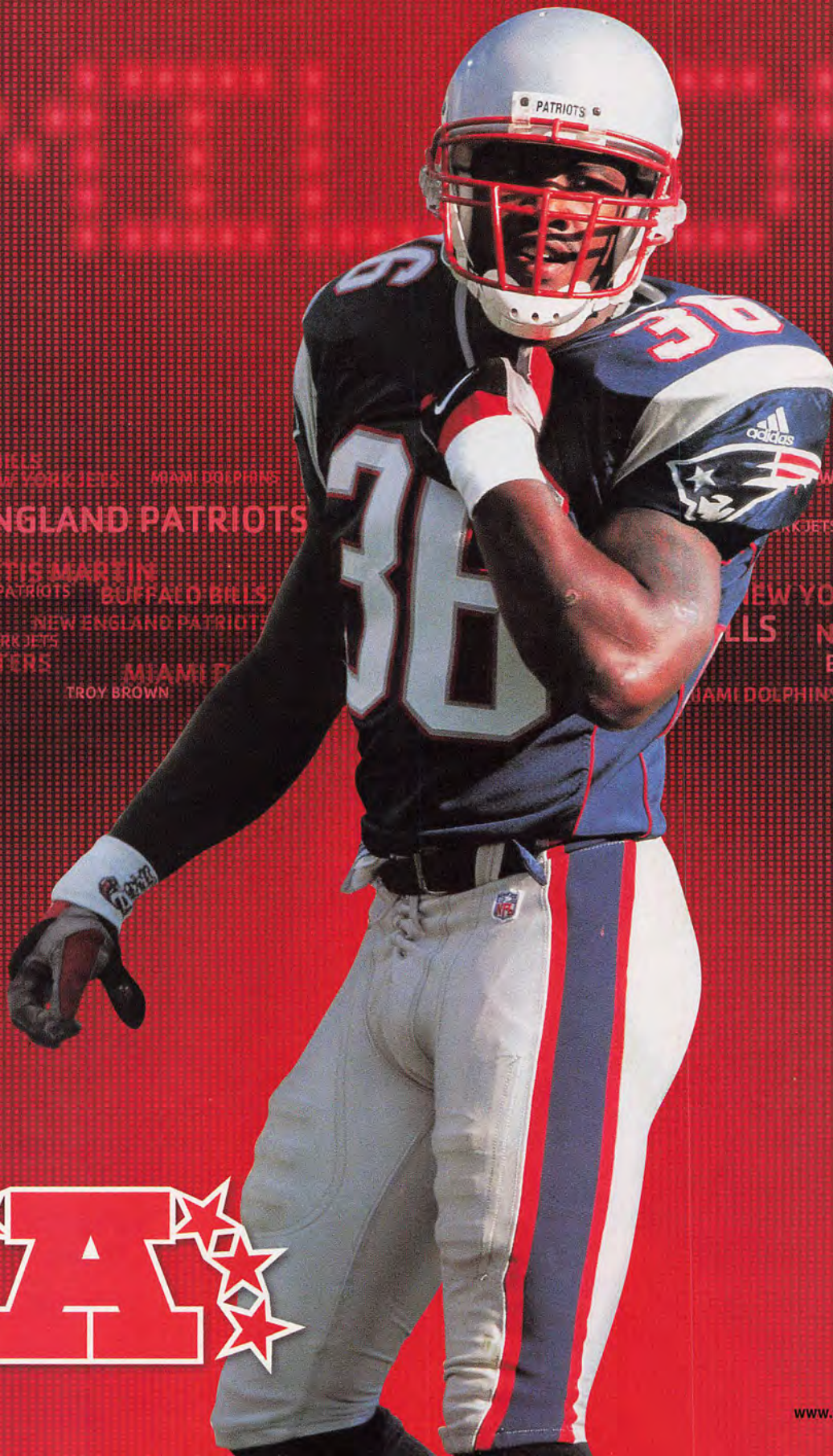
## SUPER BOWL XXXVII

**Philadelphia Eagles  
over  
Pittsburgh Steelers**

*Statistics compiled by Stephanie Brooks  
Rosters provided by STATS Inc.*



# AFC EAST





# With Williams a Dolphin and Bledsoe relocating, Pats hope Brady never wakes up from dream season.

**N**one of the last three Super Bowl champions had a winning record the previous season, which would eliminate New England, Miami and the New York Jets and make Buffalo a favorite to win Super Bowl XXXVII.

Preposterous? Not any more so than the 5-11 Patriots winning a Super Bowl with a second-year quarterback who was a former sixth-round pick being named MVP.

But it happened. Just ask Tom Brady, assuming his head has cleared and he's been snapped back to reality in time for this season.

This division's been made more interesting with the addition of running back Ricky Williams in Miami and the relocation of quarterback Drew Bledsoe to Buffalo. All but the Bills would seem to be Super Bowl contenders, but based on recent history, even Buffalo can't be ruled out.

## New England Patriots

What does Bill Belichick do for an encore? For one thing, Belichick and his defending Super Bowl champions moved into a new 68,000-seat stadium, CMGI Field, situated next-door to Foxboro Stadium. If they play as well as they'll look in their swanky new confines, they might be on their way to San Diego.

Although the Patriots won't catch anyone by surprise this season, their confidence should be sky-high because of what they accomplished last season when they overcame the injury to Bledsoe and a 5-5 start. The big question that can only be answered during the season is whether Belichick will again be able to get the maximum out of so many bargain-basement players.

## Miami Dolphins

After finishing 11-5 and tying for the AFC East title, the Dolphins didn't go out with a bang

but with a whimper, losing a wild-card game at home to Baltimore and scoring only three points in the process. That kind of humiliation alone should be enough incentive to ignite them going into the season.

Like almost every team, the Dolphins had to get rid of players because of the salary cap, but getting feature back Williams from New Orleans for a No. 1 pick may give them the kind of running game they've been lacking since, since ... forever. Miami has a Super Bowl-caliber defense, and Williams could be the missing link on offense.

## New York Jets

In three consecutive seasons, the Jets went from having Bill Parcells to Al Groh to Herm Edwards as their head coach. Having Edwards back for consecutive seasons gives them the kind of stability that has been missing under the annual upheaval in the front office. Edwards is a players' coach in a mold that's the polar opposite of Parcells and Groh.

The Jets are legitimate playoff contenders, but they've got some questions to answer before anyone will mention them in the same sentence with "Super Bowl contender." Behind the scenes, an old-fashioned quarterback controversy has been developing. If Vinny Testaverde struggles, New York's impatient, rambunctious fans are going to demand Chad Pennington.

## Buffalo Bills

The Bills' 3-13 record was their worst in almost two decades. General Manager Tom Donahoe and coach Gregg Williams knew they would have to bite the bullet in their first season in Buffalo and get worse before they could get better. That strategy seems to be working. Getting Bledsoe for a No. 1 pick in 2003 to solidify the quarterback position was a superb move.



Previews by John McClain

## TOP PLAYERS

### OFFENSE:

**Curtis Martin, RB**  
New York Jets

### DEFENSE:

**Ty Law, CB**  
New England Patriots

### NEWCOMER:

**Mike Williams, OT**  
Buffalo Bills





# New England Patriots

AFC EAST

## Patsies no more, New England should actually be better—but there are a lot of 'ifs.'

**A** strong case can be made for the Patriots pulling off the biggest Super Bowl upset of all time. The Jets' victory over the Dolphins in Super Bowl III is considering the biggest upset, but looking back, that New York team was loaded with talent on both sides of the ball. The Patriots stunned the Rams with a lot of blue-collar overachievers who played one of the smartest games in history.

Bill Belichick is acknowledged as one of the greatest defensive coaches ever, but he also

dabbles in offense and lets his offensive coaches get the credit. It doesn't matter which side of the ball the players are on, if they want to play for Mr. Bill, they have to be tough, unselfish, committed and football-smart.

That's why Belichick was able to get rid of two problems—quarterback Drew Bledsoe and receiver Terry Glenn. Bledsoe, who informed management he would retire rather than return under the same circumstances, was dealt to the Bills for a No. 1 pick in 2003. Glenn was shipped to Green Bay. It should make for smoother sailing.

New England's dream season was actually a nightmare when the Patriots stood 5-5 after suffering a seven-point loss at home to the Rams. Something clicked over the next nine weeks. The Patriots didn't lose again. During their nine-game winning streak, which included three playoff games, they never allowed more than 17 points.

The Patriots have a nice blend of character and characters. Belichick has developed the right kind of chemistry, which is one reason they were able to win games by one, three, seven, three, seven and three points during the nine-game streak.

One three-point victory eliminated Oakland in overtime in the snow in the controversial "tuck game" that continues to bring disagreement over whether Brady really did fumble. The other three-point victory came in the Super Bowl. The victories were supplied by kicker Adam Vinatieri, who won both with last-play field goals.

*Ex-Bill Antowain Smith gave the Patriots the running game they'd been craving, as he was the first New England back since Robert Edwards in 1998 to gain more than 1,000 yards rushing.*



Cornerback Ty Law returned two interceptions for touchdowns last season, giving him five for his career, tops in franchise history.

### OFFENSE

On the surface, the Patriots don't impress anyone with their statistics. For the season, they ranked 19th in offense, 13th in rushing and 22nd in passing. The statistic that boggles the mind is the defensive ranking. How could a team rank No. 24 in defense, including 19th against the run and 24th against the pass, and finish the regular season with six consecutive victories and continue on to win the Super Bowl?

The Patriots allowed a lot of yards, but they didn't allow a lot of points. They ranked sixth in points allowed, and at the end of the day that should be the only statistic anyone cares about. But here's another one worth paying attention to: In the regular season, they had seven returns for touchdowns, and added three more in the playoffs.

It stands to reason that New England should be even better this season, but it just depends. For instance, it depends on running back Antowain Smith duplicating his performance of last season, when he rushed for 1,157 yards and scored 13 touchdowns in a contract year. It depends on receiver Troy Brown coming close to his career year in which he caught 101 passes for 1,199 yards and

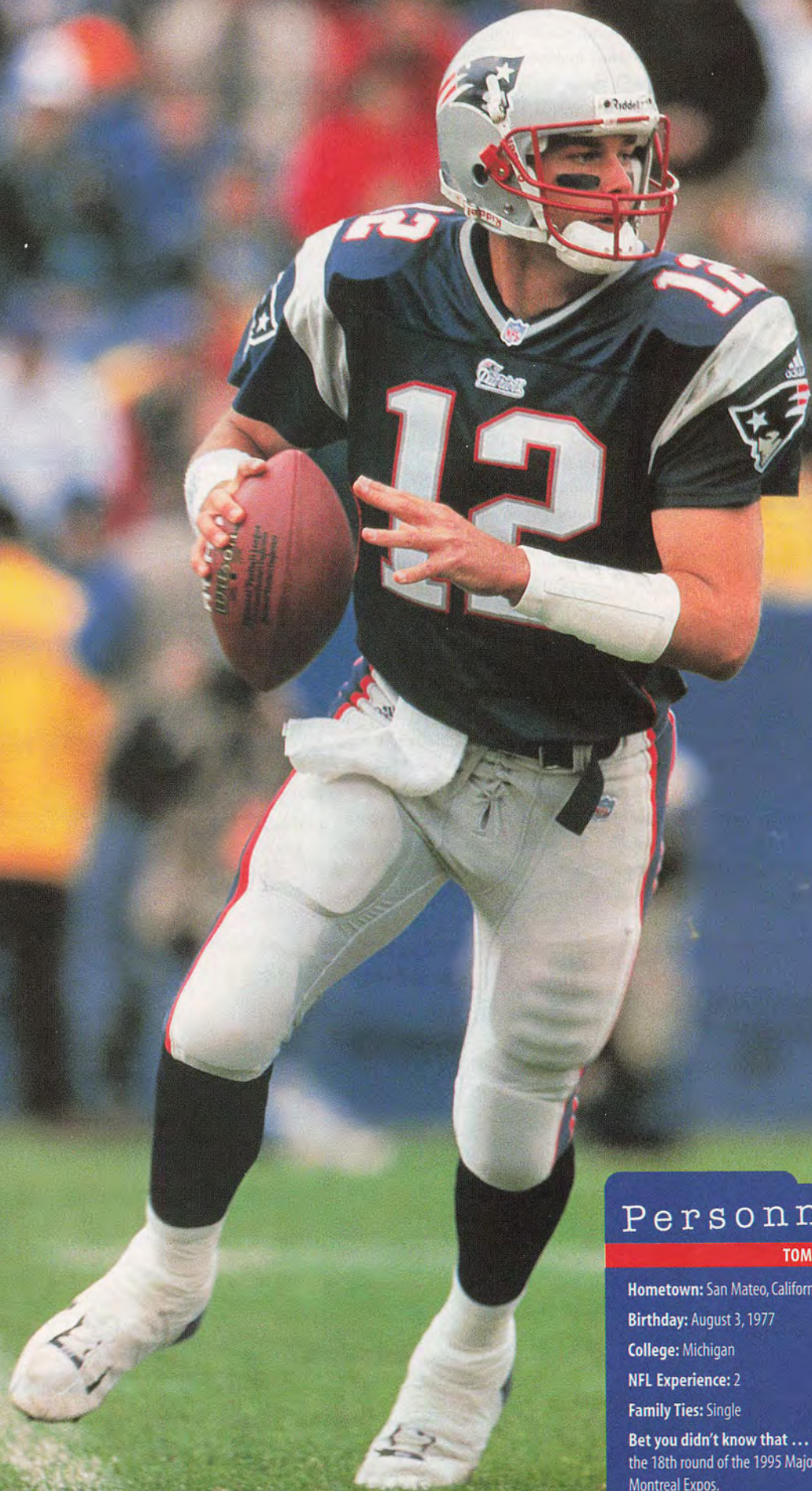


## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	305.1	19	TOTAL DEFENSE	334.5	24
RUSHING	112.1	13	AGAINST RUSH	115.9	19
PASSING	193.1	22	AGAINST PASS	218.6	24
SCORING	371	6	PTS. ALLOWED	272	6
PUNT RETURNS	13.3	2	INTERCEPTIONS	22	7
KICK RETURNS	20.1	25	SACKS	40	19
RED ZONE TD %	48.1	16	TURNOVER DIFF.	+7	9T







## Personnel File

### TOM BRADY

**Hometown:** San Mateo, California

**Birthday:** August 3, 1977

**College:** Michigan

**NFL Experience:** 2

**Family Ties:** Single

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Tom was drafted as a catcher in the 18th round of the 1995 Major League Baseball Draft by the Montreal Expos.









Perennial Pro Bowl safety Lawyer Milloy made more than 100 tackles for the fifth straight season in 2001.

Cornerback Ty Law has become a perennial Pro Bowl selection. He's as good as there is at his position. His counterpart, Otis Smith, is 36, but no one has been able to dislodge him so far. Strong safety Lawyer Milloy is one of the best safeties in the league. He can hit and run and intimidate. Free safety Tebucky Jones doesn't get as much recognition as the other defensive backs, but opposing coaches know he good he can be.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

The return game is in excellent hands with Brown (punts) and Patten (kickoffs). Coverage teams are solid and produce big plays in the clutch.

Vinatieri was rewarded with a new contract. He's worth it because he's as good as there is under pressure. He made good on 24 of 30 field goal attempts in the regular season before beating Oakland and St. Louis in the postseason.

Punter Ken Walter is underrated. He had a net average of 38.1 yards. More important, he had only two touchbacks. And he backed opponents inside their 20 on 24 occasions.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 9	PITTSBURGH.....	9:00
September 15	at NY Jets.....	1:00
September 22	KANSAS CITY.....	1:00
September 29	at San Diego.....	4:15
October 6	at Miami.....	1:00
October 13	GREEN BAY.....	1:00
October 20	OPEN DATE.....	
October 27	DENVER.....	4:15
November 3	at Buffalo.....	1:00
November 10	at Chicago.....	4:15
November 17	at Oakland.....	8:30
November 24	MINNESOTA.....	1:00
November 28	at Detroit.....	12:30
December 8	BUFFALO.....	1:00
December 16	at Tennessee.....	9:00
December 22	NY JETS.....	8:30
December 29	MIAMI.....	1:00

All times Eastern

## NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Bill Belichick, head coach

Charlie Weis, offensive coordinator/wide receivers; Rob Ryan, linebackers; Eric Mangini, defensive assistant/quality control; Dante Scarnecchia, assistant head coach/offensive line; Ivan Fears, running backs; Dick Rehbein, quarterbacks; Romeo Crennell, defensive coordinator; Brian Daboll, wide receivers; Jeff Davidson, offensive line assistant; Pepper Johnson, linebackers; Randy Melvin, defensive line; Markus Paul, assistant strength and conditioning; Brad Seely, special teams; Mike Woick, strength and conditioning

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
12	Brady, Tom	QB	6-4	220	08/03/1977	2	Michigan
19	Huard, Damon	QB	6-3	220	07/09/1973	3	Washington
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
63	Andruzzi, Joe	G	6-3	315	08/23/1975	4	Southern Connecticut State
63	Benjamin, Ryan	C	6-2	250	11/17/1977	1	South Florida
77	Compton, Mike	G	6-6	310	09/18/1970	9	West Virginia
74	Jones, Kenyatta	G	6-3	305	01/18/1979	1	South Florida
70	Klemm, Adrian	T	6-3	312	05/21/1977	1	Hawaii
72	Light, Matt	T	6-4	305	06/23/1978	1	Purdue
61	Neal, Stephen	T	6-4	290	09/10/1976	0	Cal State Bakersfield
66	Paxton, Lonie	C	6-2	260	03/13/1978	2	Sacramento State
64	Robinson-Randall, Greg	T	6-5	322	06/23/1978	2	Michigan State
67	Ruegamer, Grey	C	6-5	300	06/01/1976	2	Arizona State
76	Williams, Grant	T	6-7	320	05/10/1974	6	Louisiana Tech
65	Woody, Damien	C	6-3	320	11/03/1977	3	Boston College
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
45	Dragos, Scott	RB	6-2	250	10/28/1975	2	Boston College
44	Edwards, Marc	RB	6-0	245	11/17/1974	5	Notre Dame
33	Faulk, Kevin	RB	5-8	202	06/05/1976	3	LSU
35	Pass, Patrick	RB	5-10	217	12/31/1977	2	Georgia
21	Redmond, J.R.	RB	5-11	215	09/28/1977	2	Arizona State
32	Smith, Antowain	RB	6-2	230	03/14/1972	5	Houston
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
80	Brown, Troy	WR	5-10	193	07/02/1971	9	Marshall
85	Cleeland, Cam	TE	6-4	272	08/15/1975	3	Washington
84	Coleman, Fred	WR	6-4	190	01/31/1975	1	Washington
15	Farris, Jimmy	WR	6-0	200	04/13/1978	0	Montana
86	Fauria, Christian	TE	6-4	245	09/22/1971	7	Colorado
81	Hayes, Donald	WR	6-4	218	07/13/1975	4	Wisconsin
	Holloway, Jabari	TE	6-2	255	12/18/1978	0	Notre Dame
82	Jackson, Curtis	WR	5-10	190	09/22/1973	2	Texas
48	Love, Arthur	TE	6-3	236	09/18/1977	0	South Carolina State
86	Patten, David	WR	5-10	190	08/19/1974	5	Western Carolina
85	Wiggins, Jermaine	TE	6-2	255	01/18/1975	2	Georgia
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
73	Anderson, Maurice	DT	6-3	280	01/19/1975	0	Virginia
91	Hamilton, Bobby	DE	6-5	280	07/01/1971	6	Southern Mississippi
95	Lyle, Rick	DE	6-5	280	02/26/1971	7	Missouri
91	Martin, Steve	NT	6-4	319	05/31/1974	6	Missouri
55	McGinest, Willie	DE	6-5	270	12/11/1971	8	Southern California
92	Nugent, David	DE	6-4	300	10/27/1977	2	Purdue
98	Pleasant, Anthony	DE	6-5	280	01/27/1968	12	Tennessee State
94	Saylor, Jace	DT	6-5	295	02/27/1979	1	Michigan State
93	Seymour, Richard	DT	6-6	305	10/06/1979	1	Georgia
71	Sullivan, Chris	DE	6-4	285	03/14/1973	5	Boston College
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
30	Cherry, Je'Rod	CB	6-1	205	05/30/1973	6	California
23	Harris, Antwan	S	5-9	192	05/29/1977	2	Virginia
30	Hayes, Chris	S	6-0	206	05/07/1972	6	Washington State
34	Jones, Tebucky	S	6-2	218	10/06/1974	4	Syracuse
31	Kelly, Ben	CB	5-9	185	09/15/1978	2	Colorado
27	Kelly, Rob	S	6-0	199	06/21/1974	4	Ohio State
	Knight, Tom	CB	6-0	195	12/29/1974	5	Iowa
24	Law, Ty	CB	5-11	199	02/10/1974	7	Michigan
36	Milloy, Lawyer	S	6-0	207	11/14/1973	6	Washington
25	Myers, Leonard	CB	5-10	195	12/18/1978	1	Miami (FL)
45	Smith, Otis	CB	5-11	196	10/22/1965	11	Missouri
	Williams, Brock	CB	5-9	188	08/11/1979	0	Notre Dame
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
99	Ayi, Kole	LB	6-1	231	09/27/1978	1	Massachusetts
54	Bruschi, Tedy	LB	6-1	245	06/09/1973	6	Arizona
58	Chatham, Matt	LB	6-4	240	06/28/1977	2	South Dakota
53	Izzo, Larry	LB	5-10	228	09/26/1974	5	Rice
52	Johnson, Ted	LB	6-4	253	12/04/1972	7	Colorado
59	Katzenmoyer, Andy	LB	6-3	255	12/02/1977	2	Ohio State
56	Phillips, Ryan	LB	6-4	252	02/07/1974	5	Idaho
47	Tuitele, Mangua	LB	6-0	260	05/26/1978	2	Colorado State
50	Vrabel, Mike	LB	6-4	250	08/14/1975	5	Ohio State
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Vinatieri, Adam	K	6-0	200	12/28/1972	6	South Dakota State
13	Walter, Ken	P	6-1	195	08/15/1972	5	Kent

## 2002 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	21	Graham, Daniel	TE	6-3	248	11/16/1978	Colorado
2	33	Branch, Deion	WR	5-9	190	07/18/1979	Louisville
4	19	Davey, Rohan	QB	6-2	245	04/14/1978	LSU
4	28	Green, Jarvis	DE	6-3	272	01/12/1979	LSU
7	26	Womack, Antwoine	RB	5-11	214	03/20/1978	Virginia
7	42	Givens, David	WR	6-0	217	08/16/1980	Notre Dame



## Can Ricky's presence make the Dolphins anything more than consistently well above average?

**T**he Dolphins are as consistent as sunshine. Miami fans have been spoiled by the team's regular-season success. The Dolphins haven't had a losing season since 1988. They've had only one losing season since 1976. They've made the playoffs seven of the last eight years, including last season when they tied the Patriots for the division title.

But success in regular season hasn't translated into

Super Bowl appearances. The Dolphins haven't played in a Super Bowl since after the 1984 season, when they were obliterated by San Francisco. They haven't won a ring since they defeated Minnesota in Super Bowl VIII.

Coach Dave Wannstedt doesn't know what it's like to miss the playoffs in Miami. They reached postseason in each of his first two seasons and posted a 1-2 record, including last season's wild-card loss at home to Baltimore.

The Dolphins were outscored 142-55 in the fourth quarter, a glaring deficiency, to be sure, but not so alarming because they pulled out five come-from-behind victories. Still, that's something they expect to improve, the same as their minus-10 turnover ratio.

### OFFENSE

To try to get to the next level, Wannstedt figured he needed a more powerful running game, so the first-round pick was traded for the third time in four years. That was just as well considering how poorly they've drafted in the first round dating back to 1997 when receiver Yatil Green was followed by running back John Avery. That's enough to make any team want to get rid of their No. 1 pick.

Wannstedt rolled the dice when he made the deal with New Orleans to get quirky running back Ricky Williams. Because he failed to deliver to the Saints the kind of promise he showed when Mike Ditka traded the 1999 draft for him, it was time for Williams to get a new zip code.



After five NFL seasons, defensive end Jason Taylor already ranks sixth on the Dolphins' all-time sack list with 40. He had a team-high nine in 2001.

The New Orleans fans booed him, and the media ripped him, and, in truth, Williams brought most of it on himself.

Last season was Williams' best. He ran for 1,245 yards and six touchdowns. He caught 60 passes, including one touchdown. But he also fumbled too much and dropped too many passes, and coach Jim Haslett ran out of patience with his enigmatic star.

Miami's running game slipped dramatically last year, ranking 23rd. Because of injuries in the offensive line, running back Lamar Smith failed to rush for 1,000 yards. Wannstedt knew it was time for a switch, so he brought in Williams. One thing to keep in mind about Williams playing in Miami: If he couldn't hold the ball indoors, how's he going to hold it in heat, humidity and rain?

Williams may get 450 carries if everything goes as hoped. The idea is for him to move the chains and take the pressure off of quarterback Jay Fiedler, who threw for 3,290 yards, 20 touchdowns and had a completion percentage of .607. Fiedler ranked second in rushing with 321 yards and added four touchdowns on the ground.

Fiedler also engineered five come-from-behind victories, but the fact remains that he's not Dan Marino in his prime, and if they could reach only



Quarterback Jay Fiedler played his best football late in games last season, completing 63.4 percent of his passes in the fourth quarter and connecting a league-leading 11 times for touchdowns in the final period.

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	301.3	21	TOTAL DEFENSE	288.0	5
RUSHING	104.0	23	AGAINST RUSH	111.2	17
PASSING	197.3	19	AGAINST PASS	176.8	1
SCORING	344	8	PTS. ALLOWED	290	11
PUNT RETURNS	11.0	9	INTERCEPTIONS	17	10
KICK RETURNS	21.4	15	SACKS	37	11
RED ZONE TD %	53.3	8	TURNOVER DIFF.	-10	26T





## Personnel File

**SAMUEL A. MADISON**

**Hometown:** Thomasville, Georgia

**Birthday:** April 23, 1974

**College:** Louisville

**NFL Experience:** 5

**Family Ties:** Single

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Sam lettered in basketball, baseball and track (where he advanced to the state finals in the triple and long jump) at Florida A&M High School in Tallahassee, Florida.





one Super Bowl with Marino, how in the world is Fiedler going to take them that far? The answer is that he isn't, because the Dolphins aren't a one-man show with Fiedler.

After years of trying to rekindle some past magic, the Dolphins finally discovered a receiver who could give them a vertical passing game. Rookie Chris Chambers had 48 catches for 883 yards and seven touchdowns. Most important, he averaged 18.4 yards a catch. It's going to be hard to keep him out of the lineup, but Oronde Gadsden and James McKnight, who tied for the team lead with 55 receptions each, are trying to.

If the linemen can stay healthy, which was a serious problem last season, the running game could be one of the league's best. Tackles Brent Smith and Todd Wade, guards Mark Dixon and Todd Perry and center Tim Ruddy like to get down and dirty, especially in the running game.

The Dolphins allowed only 27 sacks, but part of that was Fiedler's ability to avoid the rush and get rid of the ball before he was sacked.

If Fiedler, Williams and the rest of the offense can shoulder more of the load—especially on the road in December, where Miami is notoriously inept—all the pressure won't fall on one of the NFL's best defenses.

## DEFENSE

The Dolphins ranked fifth in defense, 17th against the run and first against the pass. They suffered two salary-cap hits in the line, which is their deepest position. Gone are Lorenzo Bromell and Kenny Mixon, who combined for 8.5 sacks. Tackle Daryl Gardener is moving outside. The coaches will be happy if Gardener can avoid the

back problems that have rendered him useless for much of the last two seasons.

Gardener will be replaced inside by Larry Chester, who'll play next to Tim Bowens, a run stuffer who's effective because he ties up two blockers. End Jason Taylor is the team's best pass rusher. He had nine sacks last season. Like the other linemen, Taylor also plays the run.

Middle linebacker Zach Thomas is the defensive leader, an undersized dynamo with range, a hero to the blue-collar crowd that appreciates the underdog. Derrick Rodgers and Morlon Greenwood flank Thomas and give Miami a superb group of linebackers.



The Dolphins expect offseason trade acquisition Ricky Williams to add big-time punch to their running game.

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 11, Lost 5

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 31-23	at Tennessee
09/23	W 18-15	Oakland
09/30	L 10-42	at St. Louis
10/07	W 30-10	New England
10/14	L 17-21	at N.Y. Jets
10/28	W 24-20	at Seattle
11/04	W 23-6	Carolina
11/11	W 27-24	at Indianapolis
11/18	L 0-24	N.Y. Jets
11/25	W 34-27	at Buffalo
12/02	W 21-10	Denver
12/10	W 41-6	Indianapolis
12/16	L 0-21	at San Francisco
12/22	L 13-20	at New England
12/30	W 21-14	Atlanta
01/06	W 34-7	Buffalo

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Smith	313	968	3.1	25	6
Fiedler	73	321	4.4	26	4
Minor	59	281	4.8	56	2
McKnight	6	39	6.5	18	0
Konrad	5	22	4.4	18	1
Johnson	5	22	4.4	9	0
Ward	2	21	10.5	16	0
Lucas	8	6	0.8	3	1

Team	473	1664	3.5	56t	14
Opponents	453	1779	3.9	44	9

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Gadsden	55	674	12.3	61	3
McKnight	55	684	12.4	40	3
Chambers	48	883	18.4	74	7
L. Smith	30	234	7.8	65	2
Minor	29	263	9.1	29	1
Ward	21	209	10.0	20	0
Weaver	18	215	11.9	27	2
Ogden	6	73	12.2	18	1
Konrad	5	52	10.4	17	1
Goodwin	4	27	6.8	9	0
J. Johnson	4	21	5.3	7	0

Team	275	3335	12.1	74t	20
Opponents	262	3059	11.7	80t	22

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Fiedler	450	273	3290	20	19
Lucas	3	2	45	0	0
Team	453	275	3335	20	19
Opponents	467	262	3059	22	17

## SACKS

Taylor 9.0, Bromell 6.5, Gardener 4.0, Thomas 3.0, Bowens 2.5, Cousin 2.0, Mixon 2.0, Greenwood 1.5, Bowens 1.0, Freeman 1.0, Gaylon 1.0, Rodgers 1.0, Surtain 1.0, Grant 0.5, Haley 0.5, Ogundimu 0.5

Dolphins 37.0, Opponents 27.0





Linebacker Zach Thomas recorded nine double-digit tackle games in 2001.

The strength of the defense continues to be cornerback, where Sam Madison and Patrick Surtain are one of the best duos in the league. They're undersized, but they cover like wallpaper and force the run as well as they can. Jamar Fletcher, last year's No. 1 pick, comes off the bench to give them even more talent at corner.

Strong safety Arturo Freeman will play in the shadow of his illustrious teammates. Free safety Brock Marion is coming off one of his best seasons. He led the team with five interceptions and returned two for touchdowns. The Dolphins returned five interceptions for touchdowns.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Although he was underutilized last season when he made 19 of 21 field goal attempts and scored only 96 points, Olindo Mare is as good as there is. Wannstedt doesn't hesitate to use him in any situation because he's money from almost any spot on the field.

The Dolphins signed veteran punter Mark Royals, who is extremely consistent. The return game is above average, with Jeff Ogden averaging 11.8 yards on punt returns last season and Travis Minor 22.5 on kickoff returns.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	DETROIT.....	1:00
September 15	at Indianapolis.....	1:00
September 22	NY Jets.....	1:00
September 29	at Kansas City.....	1:00
October 6	NEW ENGLAND.....	1:00
October 13	at Denver.....	8:30
October 20	BUFFALO.....	1:00
October 27	OPEN DATE	
November 4	at Green Bay.....	9:00
November 10	at NY Jets.....	8:30
November 17	BALTIMORE.....	1:00
November 24	SAN DIEGO.....	1:00
December 1	at Buffalo.....	1:00
December 9	CHICAGO.....	9:00
December 15	OAKLAND.....	1:00
December 21	at Minnesota.....	1:30
December 29	at New England.....	1:00

All times Eastern

## MIAMI DOLPHINS

Dave Wannstedt, head coach

Keith Armstrong, special teams; Judd Garrett, offensive quality control; Robert Ford, receivers; Pat Jones, tight ends; Bill Lewis, defensive nickel package; Robert Nunn, assistant defensive line/defensive quality control; John Gamble, strength and conditioning; Mel Phillips, secondary; Clarence Brooks, defensive line; Brad Roll, assistant strength and conditioning; Joel Collier, running backs; Doug Blevins, kickers; Jim Bates, defensive coordinator; Bob Sanders, linebackers; Mike Shula, quarterbacks; Norv Turner, offensive coordinator/assistant head coach; Tony Wise, offensive line

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
9	Fiedler, Jay	QB	6-2	225	12/29/1971	4 Dartmouth
6	Lucas, Ray	QB	6-3	225	08/06/1972	6 Rutgers
8	McNown, Cade	QB	6-1	210	01/12/1977	2 UCLA
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
65	Andrew, Troy	C	6-4	305	12/12/1977	1 Duke
65	Bundren, Jim	G	6-3	303	10/06/1974	2 Clemson
64	Cesario, Anthony	G	6-5	310	07/19/1976	0 Colorado State
63	Dixon, Mark	G	6-4	300	11/26/1970	4 Virginia
78	Green, Cornell	G	6-6	320	08/25/1974	0 Central Florida
74	Nails, Jamie	G	6-6	360	06/03/1975	4 Florida A&M
75	Perry, Todd	G	6-5	305	11/28/1970	9 Kentucky
61	Ruddy, Tim	C	6-3	300	04/27/1972	8 Notre Dame
72	Searcy, Leon	T	6-4	320	12/21/1969	8 Miami (FL)
74	Smith, Brent	T	6-5	315	11/21/1973	3 Mississippi State
76	Spriggs, Marcus	T	6-3	315	05/17/1974	5 Houston
68	Vincent, Andy	T	6-4	306	06/11/1978	0 Texas A&M
71	Wade, Todd	T	6-8	325	10/30/1976	2 Mississippi
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
32	Barnes, Marlon	RB	5-9	215	03/13/1976	1 Colorado
33	Dyer, Deon	RB	5-11	255	10/02/1977	2 North Carolina
47	Edwards, Robert	RB	5-11	220	10/02/1974	1 Georgia
44	Konrad, Rob	RB	6-3	255	11/12/1976	3 Syracuse
34	Minor, Travis	RB	5-10	201	06/30/1979	1 Florida State
34	Williams, Ricky	RB	5-10	236	05/21/1977	3 Texas
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
17	Baker, Robert	WR	5-11	198	05/14/1976	0 Auburn
84	Chambers, Chris	WR	5-11	210	08/12/1978	1 Wisconsin
46	Draper, Shawn	TE	6-3	280	07/05/1979	0 Alabama
86	Gadsden, Oronde	WR	6-2	215	08/20/1971	4 Winston-Salem
46	Mayes, Alonzo	TE	6-4	265	06/04/1975	3 Oklahoma State
84	McDonald, Darnell	WR	6-3	199	05/26/1976	1 Kansas State
80	McKnight, James	WR	6-1	198	06/17/1972	7 Liberty
88	Ogden, Jeff	WR	6-0	187	02/22/1975	4 Eastern Washington
89	Perry, Ed	TE	6-4	270	09/01/1974	5 James Madison
80	Sanford, Sulecio	WR	5-10	190	03/23/1976	0 Middle Tennessee State
15	Savage, Damon	WR	5-10	185	02/01/1976	0 Tulsa
87	Ward, Dedric	WR	5-9	190	09/29/1974	5 Northern Iowa
82	Weaver, Jed	TE	6-4	262	08/11/1976	3 Oregon
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
96	Bowens, David	DE	6-2	261	07/03/1977	3 Western Illinois
95	Bowens, Tim	DT	6-4	320	02/07/1973	8 Mississippi
64	Chester, Larry	DT	6-2	310	10/17/1975	4 Temple
92	Gardener, Daryl	DT	6-6	310	02/25/1973	6 Baylor
97	Grant, Ernest	DT	6-5	315	05/17/1976	2 Arkansas-Pine Bluff
94	Haley, Jermaine	DT	6-4	305	02/23/1973	2 Butler
90	Ogunley, Adewale	DE	6-4	270	08/09/1977	1 Indiana
98	Taylor, Henry	DT	6-2	298	11/29/1975	3 South Carolina
99	Taylor, Jason	DE	6-6	260	09/01/1974	5 Akron
95	Wallace, Al	DE	6-5	258	03/25/1974	2 Maryland
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
24	Brown, Delvin	S	5-11	195	09/17/1979	1 Miami (FL)
24	Fletcher, Jamar	CB	5-9	184	08/28/1979	1 Wisconsin
27	Freeman, Arturo	S	6-0	196	10/27/1976	2 South Carolina
42	Gamble, Trent	S	5-9	195	07/24/1977	2 Wyoming
40	Green, Ray	S	6-3	187	03/22/1977	2 South Carolina
28	Lethridge, Zebbie	CB	6-0	190	01/31/1975	1 Texas Tech
29	Madison, Sam	CB	5-11	185	04/23/1974	5 Louisville
31	Marion, Brock	S	5-11	205	06/11/1970	9 Nevada
41	McGarrahan, Scott	S	6-1	198	02/12/1974	4 New Mexico
47	Shields, Scott	S	6-4	228	03/29/1976	2 Weber State
23	Surtain, Patrick	CB	5-11	192	06/19/1976	4 Southern Mississippi
34	Symonette, Josh	S	5-0	180	05/08/1978	1 Tennessee Tech
22	Wooden, Shawn	S	5-11	205	10/23/1973	6 Notre Dame
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
58	Galyon, Scott	LB	6-2	238	03/23/1974	6 Tennessee
52	Greenwood, Morlon	LB	6-0	242	07/17/1978	1 Syracuse
51	Hendricks, Tommy	LB	6-2	233	10/23/1978	2 Michigan
57	Moore, Corey	LB	5-11	225	03/20/1977	2 Virginia Tech
59	Rodgers, Derrick	LB	6-1	235	10/14/1971	5 Arizona State
56	Russell, Twan	LB	6-1	230	04/25/1974	5 Miami (FL)
54	Thomas, Zach	LB	5-11	235	09/01/1973	6 Texas Tech
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Mare, Olindo	K	5-10	195	06/06/1973	5 Syracuse
3	Royals, Mark	P	6-5	215	06/22/1965	13 Appalachian State

## 2002 DRAFTES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
3	25	McKinney, Seth	C	6-3	300	06/12/1979	Texas A&M
4	16	McMichael, Randy	TE	6-3	247	06/28/1979	Georgia
5	26	Lowe, Omare	CB	6-1	196	04/20/1978	Washington
5	35	Simmons, Sam	WR	5-9	200	11/25/1979	Northwestern
7	30	Henry, Leonard	RB	6-1	206	01/05/1978	East Carolina





Veteran QB Vinny Testaverde (top) has a record of 32-16 in games he has started for the Jets. The Jets use his best blocker, Pro Bowler Kevin Mawae, differently than others teams do their centers, often sending him downfield to block players in the secondary.

## The Jets will continue not to beat themselves—but a quarterback controversy could be looming.

**B**y winning three of their last four games, the Jets closed last season with a flurry to finish 10-6 and earn a wild-card berth. But they fizzled at Oakland and got a quick ticket home.

The Jets did a lot of things right in Herm Edwards' first season as coach. First and foremost, they didn't beat themselves. They led the NFL in turnover ratio (plus-18), fewest penalties (62), fewest penalty yards (507) and tied for first in fewest fumbles lost (seven). They were second in fewest sacks allowed (19) and tied for second in fewest turnovers committed (21). They were fourth in rushing (128.4 yards per game) and seventh in pass defense (187.4).

But there were things the Jets didn't do well. They ranked 24th in offense, including 29th in passing. They were 28th against the run. No one but defensive end John Abraham could consistently sack the quarterback. Abraham finished with 13 of the team's 33 sacks. They didn't have a receiver with at least 60 catches. They were 30th in punt coverage, allowing 13.1 yards per return.

To top it all off, quarterback Vinny Testaverde threw only 15 touchdown passes, and if the fans had been able to get their way, Chad Pennington would have vacated his regular seat on the bench and been elevated to the starting job, which could happen this season.

If Edwards and his assistants can get the same kind of discipline on the field as they received last season, the Jets will have a good chance to return to the playoffs. But a lot more has to happen for them to have a realistic shot at reaching the Super Bowl.

### OFFENSE

Start with quarterback, the most important

position on the team. Testaverde is playing in his 16th season. It seems as if Pennington, a former No. 1 pick entering his third season, has been groomed so long he must look like a poodle. A quarterback controversy can ruin a team, but if the coaches and players handled it correctly (see: Patriots, 2001), dividing the team can be avoided.

No matter who starts at quarterback, the Jets won't try to fool anyone with their offensive strategy. They're going to give the ball to running back Curtis Martin as much as they can.

Martin is one of the NFL's premier players, and he proved it again last season by rushing for 1,513 yards, averaging 4.5 yards a carry and scoring 10 touchdowns. He also ranked third on the team with 53 catches.

Martin runs behind an experienced line that features Pro Bowl center Kevin Mawae, underrated right tackle Jason Fabini, guards Randy Thomas and Dave Szott and left tackle Kareem McKenzie. Fabini replaces Ryan Young, who was lost to Houston in the expansion draft.

The linemen know how to run block and pass protect, and a coach can't ask for too much more other than to keep crossing his fingers in hopes they remain healthy.

What the Jets need is more production from their passing game that features three small receivers in Wayne Chrebet, Laveranues Coles and Santana Moss. Coles emerged as the go-to receiver with 59 catches for 868 yards and seven touchdowns. Chrebet had 56 receptions but only one touchdown. Moss, last year's No. 1 pick, spent most of the season in rehab recovering from a knee injury.

Tight end Anthony Becht caught five touchdown passes, but he needs to improve on 36 catches and an 8.9-yard average. Third-round pick Chris Baker is a tight end who's a better receiver than blocker, and he may be able to contribute in the passing game.

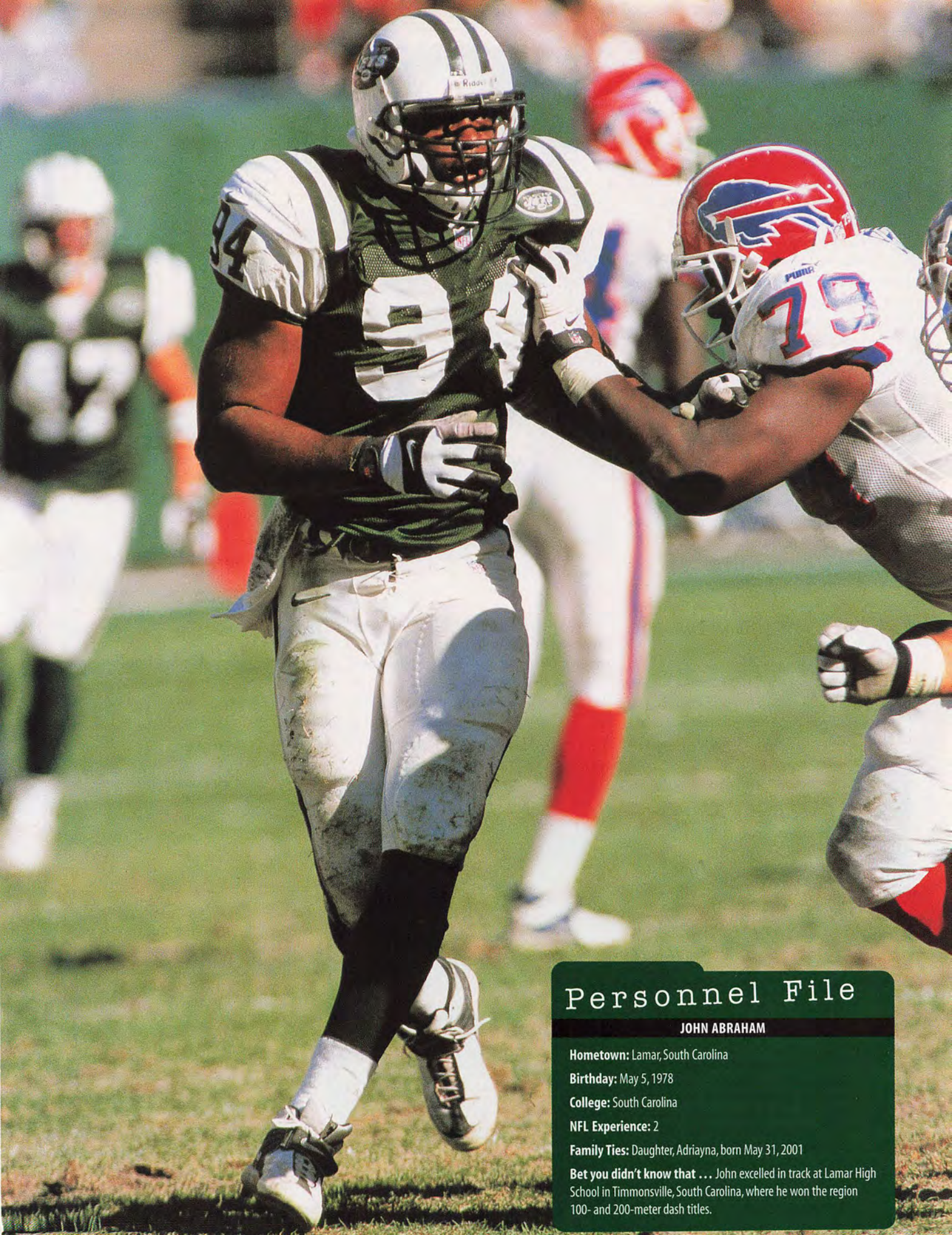
Testaverde and Pennington must find a way to get the ball down the field more to force the defense from overloading to stop Martin in

### NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	299.7	24	TOTAL DEFENSE	322.1	19
RUSHING	128.4	4	AGAINST RUSH	134.6	28
PASSING	171.3	29	AGAINST PASS	187.4	7
SCORING	308	17	PTS. ALLOWED	295	12
PUNT RETURNS	9.5	15	INTERCEPTIONS	20	9
KICK RETURNS	21.4	17	SACKS	33	22
RED ZONE TD %	43.2	23	TURNOVER DIFF.	+18	1







## Personnel File

### JOHN ABRAHAM

**Hometown:** Lamar, South Carolina

**Birthday:** May 5, 1978

**College:** South Carolina

**NFL Experience:** 2

**Family Ties:** Daughter, Adriayna, born May 31, 2001

**Bet you didn't know that . . .** John excelled in track at Lamar High School in Timmonsville, South Carolina, where he won the region 100- and 200-meter dash titles.



running situations. The Jets also must improve on their 38-percent third-down proficiency.

## DEFENSE

Because of inconsistent play and the salary cap, the Jets' defense has undergone a metamorphosis. Gone are cornerbacks Aaron Glenn and Marcus Coleman, safety Victor Green and outside linebacker James Farrior. Gone with them are 12 of the team's 20 interceptions.

Joining the defense are such veteran free agents as cornerbacks Donnie Abraham and Aaron Beasley, strong safety Sam Garnes, tackle Larry Webster and outside linebacker Sam Cowart. When General Manager Terry Bradway used his No. 1 pick on Alabama-Birmingham defensive end Bryan Thomas, Jets fans exploded, but there was method to his madness.

Thomas (6-4, 266 pounds) ran the 40-yard dash in 4.55 at the scouting combine. Several teams were considering him near the end of the first round, and they were disappointed when Bradway was shrewd enough to grab him. Edwards envisions Thomas as a bookend pass rusher with John Abraham.

Thomas, Abraham and Shaun Ellis, who should move inside, are first-round picks. The other tackle, Jason Ferguson, is returning from an injury and can make a huge difference in stopping the run.

Cowart, who was Buffalo's best defensive player until he was sidelined with an injury last season, rebuffed the Bills to come south to the Jets. Cowart believes he has something to prove, and playing with a chip on his broad shoulders will make him even tougher.



Mo Lewis' 52 career sacks are the most among all linebackers in team history.

Putting Cowart on a unit with Marvin Jones and Mo Lewis should give the Jets one of the best and most physical group of linebackers in the league.

Donnie Abraham and Beasley arrive from the Bucs and Jaguars, respectively. Abraham played for Edwards when he coached Tampa Bay's secondary. The Jets signed Garnes away from the Giants. He was one of the Giants' best defensive players.

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 10, Lost 6

DATE		SCORE	
09/09	L	24-45	Indianapolis
09/23	W	10-3	at New England
10/01	L	17-19	San Francisco
10/07	W	42-36	at Buffalo
10/14	W	21-17	Miami
10/21	L	14-34	St. Louis
10/28	W	13-12	at Carolina
11/04	W	16-9	at New Orleans
11/11	W	27-7	Kansas City
11/18	W	24-0	at Miami
12/02	L	16-17	New England
12/09	L	7-18	at Pittsburgh
12/16	W	15-14	Cincinnati
12/23	W	29-28	at Indianapolis
12/30	L	9-14	Buffalo
01/06	W	24-22	at Oakland

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Martin	333	1513	4.5	47	10
Jordan	39	292	7.5	46	1
Coles	10	108	10.8	20	0
Anderson	26	102	3.9	12	0
Testaverde	31	25	0.8	12	0
Pennington	1	11	11.0	11	0
Sowell	4	9	2.3	4	0

Team	445	2054	4.6	47	11
Opponents	481	2154	4.5	56t	15

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Coles	59	868	14.7	40	7
Chrebet	56	750	13.4	36	1
C. Martin	53	320	6.0	27	0
Anderson	40	252	6.3	22	2
Becht	36	321	8.9	24	5
Swayne	13	203	15.6	27	0
Jordan	7	44	6.3	25	1
Dearth	3	10	3.3	9	1
Hatchette	2	44	22.0	29	0
Moss	2	40	20.0	33	0
Sowell	1	19	19.0	19	0

Team	272	2871	10.6	40t	17
Opponents	313	3170	10.1	70t	14

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Testaverde	441	260	2752	15	14
Pennington	20	10	92	1	0
Martin	1	1	18	1	0
Tupa	1	1	9	0	0

Team	464	272	2871	17	14
Opponents	516	313	3170	14	20

### SACKS

Abraham 13.0, Ellis 5.0, Lyle 3.5 Coleman 3.0, Martin 2.5, Burton 2.0, Farrior 1.0, Jones 1.0, Mickens 1.0, Reed 1.0

Jets 33.0, Opponents 19.0





Sure-handed wide receiver Wayne Chrebet has caught 305 passes since his last fumble in December 1996.

The only returning starter in the secondary is free safety Damien Robinson. He can be flaky, but Edwards likes him. If Robinson slips for any reason, don't be surprised if second-round pick Jon McGraw replaces him. McGraw has outstanding size, speed and intelligence. He's got the kind of ability that could solidify a position for years.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

As for special teams, Moss should become the punt returner. He was sensational during his college career at Miami. John Hall handles kicking duties and ex-Dolphin Matt Turk will do the punting. Punt coverage must get better. Kickoff coverage is good enough.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Buffalo	1:00
September 15	NEW ENGLAND	1:00
September 22	at Miami	1:00
September 29	at Jacksonville	1:00
October 6	KANSAS CITY	4:05
October 13	OPEN DATE	
October 20	MINNESOTA	1:00
October 27	CLEVELAND	1:00
November 3	at San Diego	4:05
November 10	MIAMI	8:30
November 17	at Detroit	4:15
November 24	BUFFALO	1:00
December 2	at Oakland	9:00
December 8	DENVER	4:15
December 15	at Chicago	1:00
December 22	at New England	8:30
December 29	GREEN BAY	4:15

All times Eastern

## NEW YORK JETS

Herman Edwards, head coach

Mike Westhoff, special teams; Phil Petey, tight ends; Paul Hackett, offensive coordinator; Ted Cottrell, assistant head coach/defensive coordinator; Bill Bradley, defensive backs; Rubin Carter, defensive line; Bishop Harris, running backs; Mike Henning, offensive assistant/quality control; John Lott, strength and conditioning; Doug Marrone, offensive line; David Merritt, defensive assistant; Eric Price, offensive assistant/quality control; Jimmy Raye, offensive specialist; Mose Rison, wide receivers; Bob Sutton, linebackers

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Pennington, Chad	QB	6-3	225	06/26/1976	2 Marshall
16	Testaverde, Vinny	QB	6-5	235	11/13/1963	15 Miami (FL)
11	Woodbury, Tory	QB	6-2	208	07/12/1978	1 Winston-Salem

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
76	Elliott, Jumbo	T	6-7	305	04/01/1965	13 Michigan
69	Fabini, Jason	T	6-7	304	08/25/1974	4 Cincinnati
65	Goodspeed, Dan	G	6-6	300	05/20/1977	1 Kent State
63	Machado, J.P.	C	6-4	300	01/06/1976	3 Illinois
68	Mawae, Kevin	C	6-4	289	01/23/1971	8 LSU
67	McKenzie, Kareem	T	6-6	327	05/24/1979	1 Penn State
79	Scott, Dave	G	6-4	289	12/12/1967	12 Penn State
77	Thomas, Randy	G	6-4	301	01/19/1976	3 Mississippi State

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
20	Anderson, Richie	RB	6-2	230	09/13/1971	9 Penn State
26	Jackson, Marlon	RB	6-2	235	10/11/1977	0 Saginaw Valley
34	Jordan, LaMont	RB	5-10	230	11/11/1978	1 Maryland
28	Martin, Curtis	RB	5-11	205	05/01/1973	7 Pittsburgh
26	Morton, Chad	RB	5-8	186	04/04/1977	2 Southern California
33	Sowell, Jerald	RB	6-0	237	01/21/1974	5 Tulane

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
88	Becht, Anthony	TE	6-5	272	08/08/1977	2 West Virginia
80	Chrebet, Wayne	WR	5-10	188	08/14/1973	7 Hofstra
87	Coles, Laveranues	WR	5-11	196	12/29/1977	2 Florida State
85	Dearth, James	TE	6-4	270	01/22/1976	2 Tarleton State
85	Fields, Chafie	WR	6-1	200	02/04/1977	0 Penn State
83	Moss, Santana	WR	5-10	185	06/01/1979	1 Miami (FL)
82	Swayne, Kevin	WR	6-1	191	01/17/1975	1 Wayne State (NE)
86	Wilcox, Daniel	TE	6-1	229	03/23/1977	1 Appalachian State
84	Yeast, Craig	WR	5-7	165	11/20/1976	3 Kentucky

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
94	Abraham, John	DE	6-4	256	05/06/1978	2 South Carolina
92	Ellis, Shaun	DT	6-5	294	06/24/1977	2 Tennessee
72	Ferguson, Jason	NT	6-3	305	11/28/1974	4 Georgia
96	Kleinhesselink, Riley	DE	6-5	270	09/27/1977	0 Northwestern State
61	Mercer, Giradie	DT	6-2	285	03/19/1976	0 Marshall
60	O'Sullivan, Dennis	DT	6-3	300	01/28/1976	0 Tulane
97	Parker, Riddick	DT	6-3	295	11/20/1972	5 North Carolina
93	Reed, James	DT	6-0	286	02/03/1977	1 Iowa State
94	White, Steve	DE	6-2	271	10/25/1973	6 Tennessee

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
21	Abraham, Donnie	CB	5-10	192	10/08/1973	6 East Tennessee State
21	Beasley, Aaron	CB	6-0	205	07/07/1973	6 West Virginia
25	Ferguson, Nick	S	5-11	201	11/27/1973	2 Georgia Tech
22	Franz, Todd	CB	6-0	194	04/12/1976	1 Tulsa
20	Garnes, Sam	S	6-3	225	07/12/1974	5 Cincinnati
23	Henderson, Jamie	CB	6-2	202	01/01/1979	1 Georgia
24	Mickens, Ray	CB	5-8	180	01/04/1973	6 Texas A&M
22	Robinson, Damien	S	6-2	223	12/22/1973	4 Iowa
29	Rooths, James	CB	5-11	210	09/03/1976	0 Shepherd
27	Scott, Tony	CB	5-10	193	10/03/1976	2 North Carolina State

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
56	Cowart, Sam	LB	6-2	245	02/26/1975	4 Florida State
51	Darling, James	LB	6-0	250	12/29/1974	5 Washington State
56	Glenn, Jason	LB	6-0	231	08/20/1979	1 Texas A&M
55	Jones, Marvin	LB	6-2	244	06/28/1972	8 Florida State
57	Lewis, Mo	LB	6-3	258	10/21/1969	11 Georgia
50	Moses, Kelvin	LB	6-0	239	09/03/1976	1 Wake Forest

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
9	Hall, John	K	6-3	228	03/17/1974	5 Wisconsin
4	Pope, Daniel	P	5-10	203	03/28/1975	3 Alabama
1	Turk, Matt	P	6-5	235	06/16/1968	7 Wisconsin-Whitewater

## 2002 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	22	Thomas, Bryan	DE	6-4	266	06/07/1979	UAB
2	25	McGraw, Jon	S	6-3	208	04/02/1979	Kansas State
3	23	Baker, Chris	TE	6-3	258	11/18/1979	Michigan State
4	23	Harper, Alan	DT	6-2	295	10/06/1979	Fresno State
5	19	Goodwin, Jonathan	G	6-3	318	12/02/1978	Michigan



## Bills hope Drew gives their offense a clue and defense matures in second season under Williams.

**N**o team will be watching the Bills closer and rooting for them to lose harder than the Patriots. Why? Because Buffalo gave New England its No. 1 draft choice in 2003. Even if the Bills double their victory total to six, it still figures to be a high pick. Jacksonville finished 6-10 last season and drafted ninth overall.

But the trade for quarterback Drew Bledsoe could turn out to be one of those that works well for both teams. It certainly rejuvenated the Bills and injected some life into their listless fans, who grew so frustrated with losing last season that the

last two home crowds at Ralph Wilson Stadium were in the 45,000 range (26,000 less than capacity). But that's what you get when your team finishes 1-7 at home.

Buffalo fans don't have Rob Johnson to kick around any more. Bledsoe, 30, wanted to play for the Bills so he could face his nemesis, Patriots coach Bill Belichick, two times each season. Bledsoe better be careful what he wishes for.

Bledsoe has to prove that he isn't on the down side of his career. After being the top pick in the 1993 draft, he guided the Patriots to the Super Bowl after the 1996 season, becoming the youngest quarterback to accomplish that feat. But he was sacked 100 times in 1999 and 2000. And when he was sidelined in the second game last season with a life-threatening injury, he was stuck with a 6-19 record over his previous 26 starts.

Bledsoe is one of many new players to join a team coming off a 3-13 season, the worst record in Buffalo since 1985. General Manager Tom Donahoe, who is one of the best personnel men in the league, and coach Gregg Williams knew they had to swallow hard and deal with losing because of problems created by the salary cap.

The Bills lost six games by six or fewer points, including four by three points. Williams is hoping a year under him and the experience of losing so many close games will help the Bills respond better in tight situations. What they need most of all is for Bledsoe to play the way he used to play at New England when he was one of the league's premier quarterbacks.

*Having turned 30 in February, veteran QB Drew Bledsoe is looking for a career resurrection in Buffalo.*



Cornerback Nate Clements, the Bills' first-round pick in the 2001 draft (No. 21 overall), was selected as the NFL's Defensive Rookie of the Year by *Sports Illustrated's* Peter King.

### OFFENSE

Long before Bledsoe was acquired, Williams had fired offensive coordinator Mike Sheppard and replaced him with Kevin Gilbride, who has a history of helping develop such quarterbacks as Warren Moon, Mark Brunell and Kordell Stewart.

Bledsoe doesn't need developing. What Bledsoe needs is protection. He is a pure pocket passer who needs to step up against the pass rush and wait for receivers to get open.

The Bills signed offensive tackle Trey Teague, who'll be tried at center, and used the fourth pick in the first round on 6-6, 375-pound offensive tackle Mike Williams. There's no way the line won't be vastly improved, especially with right tackle Jonas Jennings moving to the left side in his second season.

Tight end Dave Moore came from Tampa Bay. Receiver Josh Reed came in the second round and should see a lot of playing time with Eric Moulds (67 catches for 904 yards and five TDs) and Peerless Price (55 for 895 and seven).

Moulds howled for the ball on more than one occasion last season. He shouldn't have to howl too much this season because Bledsoe wants to throw it to him down the field. Price should benefit from the improved passing game, too. Reed, a former running back at LSU, was the nation's



## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	321.1	13	TOTAL DEFENSE	330.8	21
RUSHING	105.4	22	AGAINST RUSH	133.3	26
PASSING	215.7	12	AGAINST PASS	197.4	13
SCORING	265	27	PTS. ALLOWED	420	29
PUNT RETURNS	9.4	17	INTERCEPTIONS	11	27
KICK RETURNS	19.9	27	SACKS	34	18
RED ZONE TD %	46.2	18	TURNOVER DIFF.	-14	29







## Personnel File

### LARRY CENTERS

**Hometown:** Tatum, Texas

**Birthday:** June 1, 1968

**College:** Stephen F. Austin

**NFL Experience:** 12

**Family Ties:** Larry and his wife, Vanessa, have two children, Larry Jr. (8), and Sydni (5).

**Bet you didn't know that . . .** Larry played bass violin instead of football from junior high until his senior year of high school to appease his mother.





Wide receiver Peerless Price, who led the Bills with seven touchdown catches, currently has a streak of 39 straight games with a reception, the fifth-longest in team history.

best receiver as a junior last season. He's got the kind of tough, blue-collar temperament that Buffalo fans love.

Although the Bills ranked 13th in offense, they were only 22nd in rushing. Travis Henry led the team with 729 rushing yards as a rookie, and that's not nearly enough. If he stays healthy, he should gain at least 1,000 because the defense can stack the deck if Bledsoe's having success throwing down the field.

Field position is always important, and that was a weakness. The Bills' average starting yard

line after kickoffs ranked 29th. Their return teams were terrible, and they didn't shorten the field for the offense very well. Buffalo forced only 19 turnovers, ranking 30th. And the Bills were minus-14 (29th) in turnover ratio.

When the Bills did do something right on offense, defense and special teams, it was usually called back. Too often the Bills were young and dumb. They committed more penalties (123) than any team in the league. They were second in yards penalized (954).

## DEFENSE

Williams, who came to Buffalo after establishing himself as one of the league's best defensive coordinators at Tennessee, is going to have to be patient with his defense, which could have five new starters and possibly even six, depending on how rookies perform.

Tackle Pat Williams is the only starter in the defensive line with more than one season of experience. End Aaron Schobel, last year's second-round pick, led the team with 6.5 sacks. The right side could be made up of end Ryan Denney and tackle Justin Bannan, rookies drafted in the second and fifth rounds, respectively.

Outside linebacker Eddie Robinson is a seasoned veteran who played for Williams in Houston and Tennessee. Middle linebacker London Fletcher came from St. Louis, where he went to two Super Bowls in three years. The coaches are hoping some of his confidence will rub off on the younger players. Fletcher's expected to provide the kind of leadership the defense lost when linebacker Sam Cowart signed with the Jets.

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 3, Lost 13

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	L 6-24	New Orleans
09/23	L 26-42	at Indianapolis
9/30	L 3-20	Pittsburgh
10/07	L 36-42	N.Y. Jets
10/18	W 13-10	at Jacksonville
10/28	L 24-27	at San Diego
11/04	L 14-30	Indianapolis
11/11	L 11-21	at New England
11/18	L 20-23	Seattle
11/25	L 27-34	Miami
12/02	L 0-35	at San Francisco
12/09	W 25-24	Carolina
12/16	L 9-12	New England
12/23	L 30-33	at Atlanta
12/30	W 14-9	at N.Y. Jets
01/06	L 7-34	at Miami

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Henry	213	729	3.4	25	4
Bryson	80	341	4.3	68	2
Johnson	36	241	6.7	23	1
Centers	34	160	4.7	50	2
Price	6	97	16.2	31	0
Morris	20	72	3.6	10	0
Van Pelt	12	33	2.8	15	0
Brown	1	10	10.0	10	0
Moulds	3	3	1.0	6	0
Moorman	1	0	0	0	0

Team	406	1686	4.2	68t	9
Opponents	482	2133	4.4	47	20

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Centers	80	620	7.8	26	2
Moulds	67	904	13.5	80	5
P. Price	55	895	16.3	70	7
Riemersma	53	590	11.1	36	3
Henry	22	179	8.1	40	0
Germany	12	203	16.9	39	0
McDaniel	11	129	11.7	22	0
Bryson	9	59	6.6	23	0
Black	8	90	11.3	25	0
Morris	7	36	5.1	11	0
Crosby	2	16	8.0	9	0
S. Jackson	1	1	1.0	1	1

Team	327	3722	11.4	80t	18
Opponents	284	3378	11.9	63t	23

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Van Pelt	30	178	2056	12	11
Johnson	21	134	1465	5	7
Brown	33	15	201	1	2
Moorman	1	0	0	0	0

Team	557	327	3722	18	20
Opponents	453	284	3378	23	11

**SACKS**  
Schobel 6.5, Newman 3.5, Hansen 3, Fisher 3.0, Office 3.0, Foreman 2.5, Flowers 2.0, Price 2.0, Robertson 2.0, Williams 1.5, Wright 1.5, Clements 1.0, Larsen 1.0, Prioleau 1.0

Bills 34.0, Opponents 36.0

# BILLS



Keep an eye on outside linebacker Keith Newman, who's entering his fourth season out of North Carolina. He may be the most well-kept secret in Buffalo, but if the team has some success, he'll get some well-deserved recognition.

Cornerback is the strength of the secondary. Antoine Winfield and Nate Clements are former No. 1 picks from Ohio State who can run, cover and hit. As they get more experience, they'll make more big plays. As defensive coordinator Jerry Gray develops more confidence in his players, the more

he'll blitz and leave Winfield and Clements in man coverage, which will showcase their ability.

Free safety Billy Jenkins is a journeyman who has bounced around the league. Strong safety Coy Wire is a third-round pick from Stanford who hits like a snowplow.

### SPECIAL TEAMS

The kicking game couldn't be any worse than last season. Mike Hollis, who wore out his welcome in Jacksonville, has come north to try to solve a huge problem. The Bills are hoping he does as well as the last kicker they lured from Florida. After Steve Christie left Tampa Bay for Buffalo, he became one of the NFL's most dependable kickers.

Punter Brian Moorman needs more distance and hang time. He was fairly accurate inside the 20 but must get better. He also needs fewer touchbacks.

*Eric Moulds became only the second Bill to record four straight 50-catch seasons (Andre Reed was the other) last year when he made 67 for 904 yards.*

The return game was horrible last season, so the Bills traded for Charlie Rogers. He played at Seattle before Houston got him in the expansion draft. If Rogers plays as he did in 2000, the Bills could have one of the best return teams in the league.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	NY Jets	1:00
September 15	at Minnesota	4:15
September 22	at Denver	4:05
September 29	CHICAGO	1:00
October 6	OAKLAND	1:00
October 13	at Houston	1:00
October 20	at Miami	1:00
October 27	DETROIT	1:00
November 3	NEW ENGLAND	1:00
November 10	OPEN DATE	
November 17	at Kansas City	1:00
November 24	at NY Jets	1:00
December 1	MIAMI	1:00
December 8	at New England	1:00
December 15	SAN DIEGO	1:00
December 22	at Green Bay	1:00
December 29	CINCINNATI	1:00

All times Eastern

## BUFFALO BILLS

Gregg Williams, head coach

Danny Smith, special teams; Chuck Lester, linebackers;

Miles Aldridge, linebackers; Ronnie Vinkler, defensive line; Jerry Gray, defensive coordinator;

Kevin Gilbride, offensive coordinator; Steve Fairchild, running backs; Fred Graves, receivers;

Steve Jackson, assistant defensive backs/third down specialist; Rusty Jones, strength and conditioning;

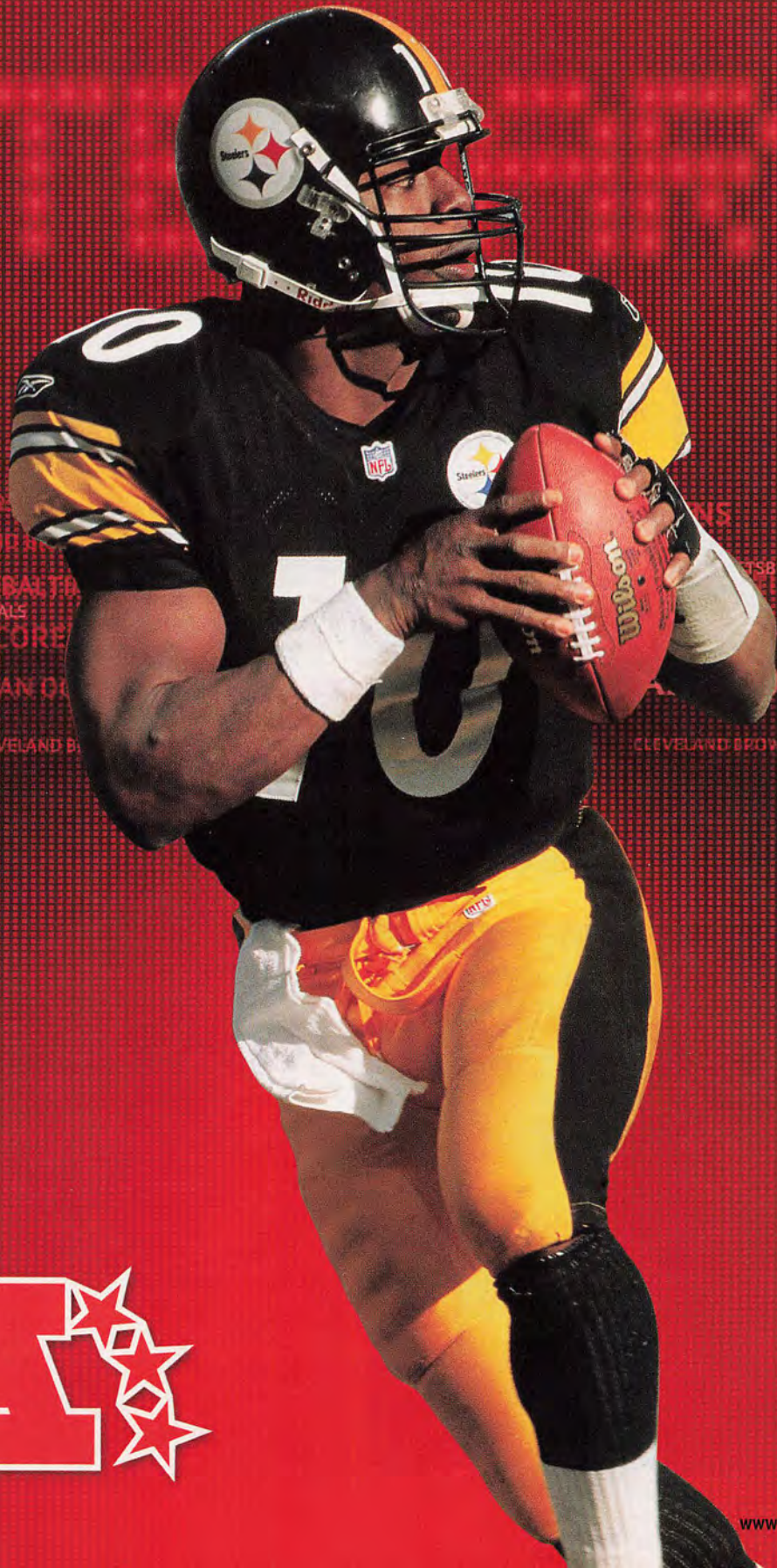
Tommy Kaiser, offensive and special teams assistant; Steve Kragthorpe, quarterbacks; John Levra, defensive line;

Dan Neal, tight ends; Pat Thomas, defensive backs

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
11	Bledsoe, Drew	QB	6-5	240	02/14/1972	9	Washington State
5	Brown, Travis	QB	6-3	218	07/17/1977	2	Northern Arizona
10	Van Pelt, Alex	QB	6-1	218	05/01/1970	7	Pittsburgh
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
79	Brown, Ruben	G	6-3	304	02/13/1972	7	Pittsburgh
65	Carman, Jon	T	6-7	335	01/14/1976	2	Georgia Tech
63	Conaty, Bill	C	6-2	300	03/08/1973	5	Virginia Tech
64	Early, Michael	C	6-2	320	06/02/1977	0	Norfolk State
72	Farris, Kris	T	6-8	318	03/26/1977	1	UCLA
70	Fina, John	T	6-5	300	03/11/1969	10	Arizona
67	Heimbarger, Craig	G	6-2	312	02/03/1977	2	Missouri
71	Hulsey, Corey	G	6-5	345	07/26/1977	1	Clemson
60	Hunt, Robert	G	6-3	307	07/22/1975	0	Virginia
75	Jennings, Jonas	T	6-3	320	11/21/1977	1	Georgia
60	Ostroski, Jerry	G	6-3	327	07/12/1970	8	Tulsa
70	Price, Marcus	T	6-6	321	03/03/1972	4	LSU
74	Sullivan, Marques	T	6-5	323	02/02/1978	1	Illinois
70	Teague, Trey	T	6-5	292	12/27/1974	3	Tennessee
68	Unutoa, Morris	C	6-1	284	03/10/1971	6	Brigham Young
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
38	Bryson, Shawn	RB	6-1	233	11/30/1976	2	Tennessee
37	Centers, Larry	RB	6-0	225	06/01/1968	12	Stephen F. Austin
41	Crosby, Phillip	RB	6-0	242	11/05/1976	1	Tennessee
20	Henry, Travis	RB	5-9	221	10/29/1978	1	Tennessee
33	Morris, Sammy	RB	6-0	225	03/23/1977	2	Texas Tech
20	Rogers, Charlie	RB	5-9	177	06/19/1976	3	Georgia Tech
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
82	Baker, Eugene	WR	6-0	175	03/18/1976	1	Kent
84	Germany, Reggie	WR	6-1	190	03/19/1978	1	Ohio State
88	Jackson, Sheldon	TE	6-3	250	07/24/1976	3	Nebraska
86	McDaniel, Jeremy	WR	6-1	195	05/02/1976	3	Arizona
83	Moore, Dave	TE	6-2	258	11/11/1969	10	Pittsburgh
80	Moulds, Eric	WR	6-2	204	07/17/1973	6	Mississippi State
87	O'Leary, Dan	TE	6-3	252	09/01/1977	1	Notre Dame
49	Osborne, Scot	TE	6-4	274	10/30/1977	0	William & Mary
81	Price, Peerless	WR	5-11	190	10/27/1976	3	Tennessee
85	Riemersma, Jay	TE	6-5	252	05/17/1973	5	Michigan
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
72	Cotton, James	DE	6-3	251	11/07/1976	0	Ohio State
98	Edwards, Ron	DT	6-3	290	07/12/1979	1	Texas A&M
95	Fisher, Bryce	DT	6-3	262	05/12/1977	1	Air Force
96	Flowers, Erik	DE	6-4	264	03/01/1978	2	Arizona State
90	Hansen, Phil	DE	6-5	273	05/20/1968	11	North Dakota State
97	Larsen, Leif	DT	6-4	295	04/03/1975	2	UTEP
77	Office, Kendrick	DE	6-5	260	08/02/1978	1	West Alabama
92	Robertson, Tyrone	DT	6-4	285	08/15/1979	1	Hinds Junior College (Miss.)
94	Schobel, Aaron	DE	6-4	265	04/01/1977	1	Texas Christian
93	Williams, Pat	DT	6-3	310	10/24/1972	5	Texas A&M
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
32	Bostic, Jason	S	5-9	181	06/03/1976	2	Georgia Tech
22	Clements, Nate	CB	5-11	195	12/12/1979	1	Ohio State
25	Driver, Tony	S	6-1	211	08/04/1977	1	Notre Dame
23	Jenkins, Billy	S	5-10	205	07/08/1974	5	Howard
23	Prioleau, Pierson	S	5-10	191	08/06/1977	3	Virginia Tech
28	Tillman, Travares	S	6-1	190	10/08/1977	2	Georgia Tech
21	Watson, Chris	CB	6-1	188	06/30/1977	3	Eastern Illinois
26	Winfield, Antoine	CB	5-9	180	06/24/1977	3	Ohio State
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
59	Fletcher, London	LB	5-10	241	05/19/1975	4	John Carroll
99	Jones, Fred	LB	6-2	246	10/18/1977	2	Colorado
53	Newman, Keith	LB	6-2	245	01/19/1977	3	North Carolina
51	Polk, DaShon	LB	6-2	235	03/13/1977	2	Arizona
55	Robinson, Eddie	LB	6-1	243	04/13/1970	10	Alabama State
59	Robinson, Jimmy	LB	6-2	250	05/01/1976	0	Western Illinois
58	Spoon, Brandon	LB	6-2	244	07/05/1978	1	North Carolina
57	Wright, Kenyatta	LB	6-0	240	02/19/1978	2	Oklahoma State
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
9	Arians, Jake	K	5-11	203	01/26/1978	1	UAB
1	Hollis, Mike	K	5-7	176	05/22/1972	7	Idaho
8	Moorman, Brian	P	6-0	180	02/08/1976	1	Pittsburg State
2002 DRAFTES							
RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	4	Williams, Mike	T	6-6	375	01/11/1980	Texas
2	4	Reed, Josh	WR	5-10	210	05/01/1980	LSU
2	29	Denney, Ryan	DE	6-7	276	06/15/1977	Brigham Young
3	32	Wire, Coy	S	5-11	209	11/07/1978	Stanford
5	4	Bannan, Justin	DT	6-3	300	04/18/1979	Colorado
6	4	Thomas, Kevin	CB	5-11	180	07/28/1978	UNLV
7	4	Pucillo, Mike	G	6-4	317	07/14/1979	Auburn
7	38	Wright, Rodney	WR	5-8	175	11/18/1979	Fresno State
7	40	Ferguson, Jarrett	RB	5-8	222	01/23/1979	Virginia Tech
7	49	Stevenson, Dominique	LB	6-0	222	12/28/1977	Tennessee



# AFC NORTH





# Old AFC Central is much the same: Teams still all hate one another, and Steelers rule.

**P**ittsburgh is still the class of the remnants of the AFC Central—the renamed AFC North minus Tennessee and Jacksonville. The Steelers are heavily favored to win their second consecutive division title, and they are a genuine threat to win the Super Bowl.

This division boasts four bitter rivalries that date back to the AFL-NFL merger in 1970. The Browns hate the Steelers, who hate the Browns. The Bengals hate the Browns, but the Browns don't acknowledge that the city of Cincinnati exists. But the Browns do hate the Ravens. Of course, everybody hates the Ravens.

The Ravens are a mirror image of coach Brian Billick, who goes to bed at night thinking everyone's out to get him. And they are. But they won't be nearly as much this season considering how the salary cap caused much of the Ravens' fearsome defense to be demolished. It's like the cap caused Billick to be exposed in his boxers, and the sight just isn't very intimidating anymore.

If the Ravens continue to slide as everyone outside their training facility predicts, they should make way for the Browns, who are on the move to the playoffs.

## Pittsburgh Steelers

The Steelers continued their climb back up the mountain by posting an AFC-best 13-3 record that gave them home-field advantage in the playoffs. But coach Bill Cowher handles the home advantage like he's juggling grenades. This time, the detonation left the Steelers a 24-17 loser against New England in the AFC Championship Game.

Cowher, who has more seniority with his team than any coach in the league, is firmly entrenched as the man who wields the power in the organization. But behind the scenes, Director of Football Operations Kevin Colbert does a magnificent job of finding players who fit into Cowher's offensive and defensive schemes.

## Cleveland Browns

In their three years of existence, the Browns have improved each season. They showed their most dramatic improvement in Butch Davis' first season when they finished 7-9. By drafting well for playmakers on offense and shrewdly manipulating the salary cap to repair holes on defense, they should be in position to make the playoffs for the first time since the old Browns were still in Cleveland.

## Baltimore Ravens

Like the month of March, the Ravens went into last season like lions and came out like lambs. They were unable to successfully defend their championship. They made the playoffs as a wild-card team, beat Miami in the first round and were eliminated at Pittsburgh in the divisional game.

When the Ravens won Super Bowl XXXV, they had one of the most dominating defenses the NFL has seen. They became synonymous with the kind of fearsome defense that made the Monsters of the Midway, the Steel Curtain, Doomsday Defense, the Purple People Eaters and Fearsome Foursome a part of NFL lore. But quoth the Raven: "Nevermore."

## Cincinnati Bengals

Cincinnati's a great place to live. It's a beautiful city with great restaurants, a good school system, plenty of parks and a river on which to have a lot of fun. For some reason, though, a lot of top players shun Cincinnati. And it has nothing to do with the city and everything to do with a franchise that has made losing acceptable and even expected.

But that image of "Loserville USA" could be changing. The fact is that Cincinnati is loaded on both sides of the ball, but there is one position plagued by inconsistency: quarterback, where the idea of Jon Kitna leading them to the Super Bowl is met with stomach-grabbing laughter.



Previews by John McClain

## TOP PLAYERS

### OFFENSE:

**Corey Dillon, RB**  
Cincinnati Bengals

### DEFENSE:

**Jason Gildon, LB**  
Pittsburgh Steelers

### NEWCOMER:

**William Green, RB**  
Cleveland Browns



# Pittsburgh Steelers

## Intact Steelers still AFC's best team on paper, but can they get it done in the postseason?

**L**ast season, the Steelers moved into their new Heinz Field and made the playoffs for the first time since 1997, when they also lost the AFC Championship Game at home. Since Bill Cowher became the coach in 1992, the Steelers are 6-4 in playoff games at home, including 1-2 in the AFC title game.

The Steelers should be the AFC's best team again, only this time they have to prove it in the playoffs, too. Of their three losses, two were by three points. They should be even better than last season because they didn't lose a player they really wanted to keep.

The only significant change in the starting lineup is James Farrior over Earl Holmes at inside linebacker. And the truth is Farrior had a better season for the Jets than Holmes had for the Steelers. They also failed to match Houston's offer sheet for kicker Kris Brown, who scored 124 points but connected on only 30 of 44 field goals.

The additions of Farrior to the defense and guard Kendall Simmons (No. 1 pick) and receiver Antwaan Randle El (second round) to the offense should help improve the Steelers on both sides of the ball.

### OFFENSE

Last season, the Steelers ranked third in offense, first rushing and 21st passing. They were first in defense, first against the run and fourth against the pass.

What Pittsburgh did better than anyone was run the ball and stop the run. But as every loyal Steeler fan knows, the team's fortunes rise and fall with enigmatic quarterback Kordell Stewart.

Playing with a quarterbacks coach (Tom Clements) for the first time, and with new offensive

coordinator Mike Mularkey, it looked as if Stewart had turned the proverbial corner and finally developed into a consistent NFL quarterback.

In the regular season, Stewart established career highs by throwing for 3,109 yards, completing 60.2 percent of his throws and compiling a passer rating of 81.7. He threw only 14 touchdown passes but suffered only 11 interceptions. And he contributed with his feet, too. He ran for a career-best 537 yards.

But Stewart struggled in both playoff games. He wasn't as bad as the special teams that allowed three touchdowns on two punt returns and a blocked field goal. In the victory over Baltimore and the loss to New England, Stewart threw one touchdown pass and four interceptions.

In the 24-17 loss to the Patriots, he was intercepted three times without a scoring pass. But being booed at home is nothing new for Stewart.

The passing game did emerge as Pittsburgh's best since Terry Bradshaw was throwing to Lynn Swann and John Stallworth. The Steelers had a pair of 1,000-yard receivers in Hines Ward (94 catches for 1,003 yards) and Plaxico Burress (66 for 1,008).

Ward may be the most physical blocker among wideouts in the league. He plays with a linebacker's mentality and often intimidates defensive backs. Include former No. 1 pick Troy Edwards and add Randle El to the mix, and the Steelers have a foursome that could be as productive as any outside St. Louis and Indianapolis.

It's amazing how well the Steelers ran the ball considering they lost tight end Mark Bruener and running back Jerome Bettis to injuries. Bruener is a devastating blocker and an average receiver, but that's ideal for Cowher's bruising style of play.



Kordell Stewart (top) set a Steelers single-season record by completing 60.2 percent of his passes last season. At bottom, Joey Porter has teamed with Jason Gildon to give Pittsburgh perhaps the top outside linebacking duo in the game over the last two years. Together, they compiled 21 sacks last season.

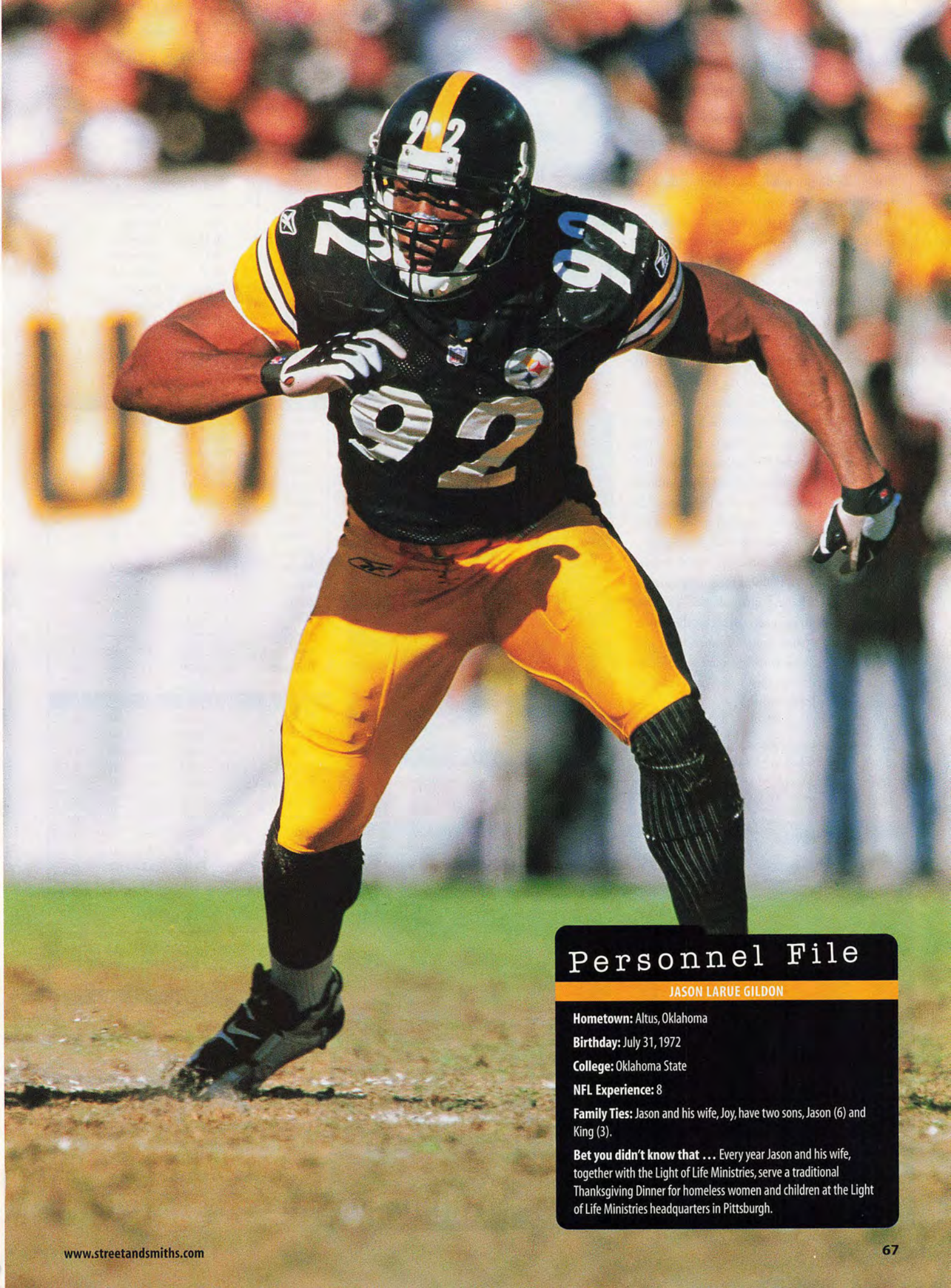
## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	367.9	3	TOTAL DEFENSE	258.6	1
RUSHING	173.4	1	AGAINST RUSH	74.7	1
PASSING	194.6	21	AGAINST PASS	183.9	4
SCORING	352	7	PTS. ALLOWED	212	3
PUNT RETURNS	8.4	23	INTERCEPTIONS	16	19
KICK RETURNS	19.2	29	SACKS	55	2
RED ZONE TD %	38.5	29	TURNOVER DIFF.	+7	9T



With Bettis limited to 1,072 yards, the Steelers still accumulated 2,774, dwarfing the opponents' 1,195. They averaged 4.8 yards a carry, and limited opponents to 3.5. And that was without Bruener leading Bettis. Chris Fuamatu-Ma'afala (453 yards) is a Bettis clone. Amos Zereoue (441)





## Personnel File

JASON LARUE GILDON

**Hometown:** Altus, Oklahoma

**Birthday:** July 31, 1972

**College:** Oklahoma State

**NFL Experience:** 8

**Family Ties:** Jason and his wife, Joy, have two sons, Jason (6) and King (3).

**Bet you didn't know that . . .** Every year Jason and his wife, together with the Light of Life Ministries, serve a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner for homeless women and children at the Light of Life Ministries headquarters in Pittsburgh.



gives them a change of pace, a quick-footed runner with outside speed.

## DEFENSE

No matter how effective the Steelers are on offense, they'll still be known as a defensive team. Playing hard-hitting defense is Pittsburgh's signature, especially at home.

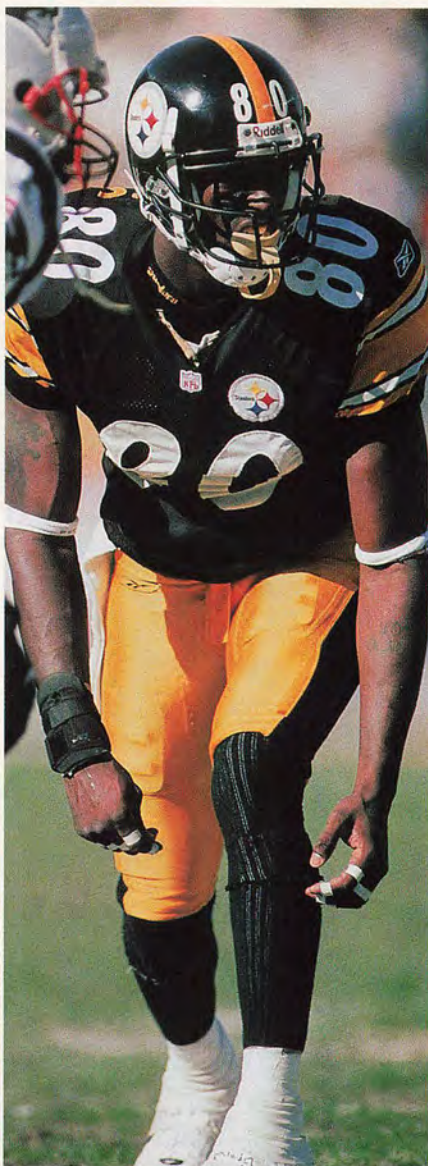
The Steelers' 3-4 system was so impressive last season that several teams are switching from a 4-3 this offseason. As always, the linemen in the three-man front are faceless but not nameless (nose tackle Casey Hampton sandwiched between ends Aaron Smith and Kimo Von Oelhoffen). They stuff the run and, when opponents pass, they grab and hold and free up the linebackers to make big plays, get the glory and sign the fat paychecks.

Even without Holmes, who signed with Cleveland, the Steelers will again have the best group of linebackers in the league. Jason Gildon and Joey Porter, who line up outside and drop down and rush in passing situations, combined for 21 sacks. Kendrell Bell, who lined up at the weak-side inside position, added nine sacks and was voted NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year.

Gildon (who has become one of the league's best players), Porter, Bell and Farrior love to punish running backs and quarterbacks. The only way to stop them is to keep them on the bench.

Cornerbacks Chad Scott, a former No. 1 pick who led the defense with five interceptions and two touchdowns, and Dewayne Washington are coming off their best seasons.

*In just his second season, Plaxico Burress went over 1,000 yards receiving and had four 100-yard games.*



## PROJECTED STARTERS

Alexander FS		Flowers SS		KR Edwards	
Porter OLB		Bell ILB		PR Edwards	
Washington CB		Von Oelhoffen RE		Hampton NT	
Burruss WR		Gandy LT		A. Smith LE	
K Peterson		Faneca LG		M. Smith RT	
P Miller		Hartings C		Bruener TE	
Kreider FB		Stewart QB		Ward WR	
Bettis RB		Simmons RG		Gildon OLB	
Farrior ILB		Tuman SS		Edwards PR	

# Steelers

## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 13, Lost 3

DATE	SCORE
09/09	L 3-21 at Jacksonville
09/30	W 20-3 at Buffalo
10/07	W 16-7 Cincinnati
10/14	W 20-17 at Kansas City
10/21	W 17-10 at Tampa Bay
10/29	W 34-7 Tennessee
11/04	L 10-13 Baltimore
11/11	W 15-12 at Cleveland
11/18	W 20-7 Jacksonville
11/25	W 34-24 at Tennessee
12/02	W 21-16 Minnesota
12/09	W 18-7 N.Y. Jets
12/16	W 26-21 at Baltimore
12/23	W 47-14 Detroit
12/30	L 23-26 at Cincinnati
01/06	W 28-7 Cleveland

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Bettis	225	1072	4.8	48	4
Stewart	96	537	5.6	48	5
Fuamatu-Ma'afala	120	453	3.8	46	3
Zereoue	85	441	5.2	32	1
Bowers	18	84	4.7	21	1
Ward	10	83	8.3	36	0
Kreider	7	29	4.1	12	1
Edwards	5	28	5.6	12	1
Witman	5	24	4.8	14	0
Maddox	6	9	1.5	8	1
Martin	1	8	8.0	8	0
Brown	1	6	6.0	6	0
Miller	1	0	0	0	0

Team	580	2774	4.8	48t	17
Opponents	339	1195	3.5	36	5

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Ward	94	1003	10.7	34	4
Burruss	66	1008	15.3	43	6
Shaw	24	409	17.0	90	2
Edwards	19	283	14.9	57	0
Fuamatu-Ma'afala	16	127	7.9	54	1
Zereoue	13	154	11.8	62	1
Bruener	12	98	8.2	21	0
Bettis	8	48	6.0	16	0
Tuman	7	96	13.7	32	1
Witman	6	32	5.3	12	0
Cushing	5	24	4.8	9	1
Kreider	2	5	2.5	5	0
Blackwell	1	8	8.0	8	0

Team	274	3295	12.0	90t	16
Opponents	295	3309	11.2	80t	19

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Stewart	442	266	3109	14	11
Maddox	9	7	154	1	1
Bettis	2	1	32	1	0

Team	454	274	3295	16	12
Opponents	525	295	3309	19	16

SACKS
Gildon 12.0, Bell 9.0, Porter 9.0, Smith 7.5, von Oelhoffen 4.5, Alexander 2.0, Bailey 2.0, Holmes 2.0, Logan 2.0, Townsend 2.0, Flowers 1.0, Hampton 1.0, Washington 1.0

Steelers 55.0, Opponents 31.0





Jerome Bettis has gained 100 yards in 40 different games as a Steeler and hasn't lost a fumble since October 25, 1999.

Strong safety Lethon Flowers spends so much time cranking out controversial quotes that his strong play is often unnoticed. Free safety Brent Alexander has grown comfortable at his position.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

The Steelers have to get better on special teams. Todd Peterson replaces Brown, but he could get psyched out, too, with the swirling wind at Heinz Field's open-air end zone. Punter Josh Miller had only five touchbacks. He also put 23 punts inside the 20. But as he showed in the playoffs, he better get more hang time or he'll spend more time tackling than kicking.

Cowher has to make sure the coverage teams are better. The only thing opponents had a consistent advantage on last season was kickoff and punt coverage.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 9	at New England	9:00
September 15	OAKLAND	8:30
September 22	OPEN DATE	
September 29	CLEVELAND	1:00
October 6	at New Orleans	1:00
October 13	at Cincinnati	1:00
October 21	INDIANAPOLIS	9:00
October 27	at Baltimore	1:00
November 3	at Cleveland	1:00
November 10	ATLANTA	1:00
November 17	at Tennessee	1:00
November 24	CINCINNATI	1:00
December 1	at Jacksonville	1:00
December 8	HOUSTON	1:00
December 15	CAROLINA	1:00
December 23	at Tampa Bay	9:00
December 29	BALTIMORE	1:00

All times Eastern

## PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Bill Cowher, head coach

Mike Archer, linebackers; Kenny Jackson, receivers;

Mike Mularkey, offensive coordinator; Jay Hayes, special teams; Dick Hoak, running backs;

Tim Lewis, defensive coordinator; John Mitchell, defensive line; Ken Whisenhunt, tight ends;

Willy Robinson, defensive backs; Russ Grimm, offensive line; Tom Clements, quarterbacks;

Mike Miller, administrative assistant; Lou Spanos, administrative assistant; Chet Fuhrman, conditioning coach;

Kent Stephenson, offensive line

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
8	Maddox, Tommy	QB	6-4	220	09/02/1971	5 UCLA
17	Martin, Tee	QB	6-1	225	07/25/1978	1 Tennessee
10	Stewart, Kordell	QB	6-1	217	10/16/1972	7 Colorado
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
66	Faneca, Alan	G	6-5	300	12/07/1976	4 LSU
72	Gandy, Wayne	T	6-5	308	02/10/1971	8 Auburn
64	Hartings, Jeff	C	6-3	294	09/07/1972	6 Penn State
78	Nkwenti, Mathias	T	6-3	295	05/11/1978	1 Temple
56	Okobi, Chukky	G	6-1	300	11/18/1978	1 Purdue
79	Ross, Oliver	G	6-5	314	09/27/1974	2 Iowa State
77	Smith, Marvel	T	6-5	315	08/06/1978	2 Arizona State
68	Vincent, Keydrick	G	6-4	330	04/13/1978	1 Mississippi
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
36	Bettis, Jerome	RB	5-11	255	02/16/1972	9 Notre Dame
33	Bowers, R.J.	RB	6-0	241	02/10/1971	1 Grove City
45	Fuamatu-Ma'afala, C.	RB	6-0	255	03/04/1977	4 Utah
35	Kreider, Dan	RB	5-11	247	03/11/1977	2 New Hampshire
38	Witman, Jon	RB	6-2	244	06/01/1972	6 Penn State
21	Zereoue, Amos	RB	5-8	210	10/08/1976	3 West Virginia
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
84	Allred, John	TE	6-4	249	09/09/1974	4 Southern California
89	Blackwell, Will	WR	6-0	196	07/09/1975	5 San Diego State
87	Bruener, Mark	TE	6-4	262	09/16/1972	7 Washington
80	Burruss, Plaxico	WR	6-5	228	08/12/1977	2 Michigan State
48	Cushing, Matt	TE	6-3	260	07/02/1975	3 Illinois
81	Edwards, Troy	WR	5-9	196	04/07/1977	3 Louisiana Tech
85	Geason, Cory	TE	6-3	255	08/12/1975	2 Tulane
83	Jackson, Lenzie	WR	6-0	184	06/17/1977	3 Arizona State
84	Tuman, Jerome	TE	6-4	252	03/24/1976	3 Michigan
86	Ward, Hines	WR	6-0	200	03/08/1976	4 Georgia
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
94	Bailey, Rodney	DE	6-3	292	10/07/1979	1 Ohio State
96	Clancy, Kendrick	NT	6-1	289	09/17/1978	2 Mississippi
73	Combs, Chris	DE	6-5	291	12/15/1976	2 Duke
98	Hampton, Casey	DT	6-1	315	09/03/1977	1 Texas
76	Hoke, Chris	DT	6-2	290	04/06/1976	0 Brigham Young
91	Smith, Aaron	DE	6-5	293	04/09/1976	3 Northern Colorado
67	von Oelhoffen, Kimo	DT	6-3	297	01/30/1971	8 Boise State
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
27	Alexander, Brent	S	5-11	200	07/10/1971	8 Tennessee State
41	Flowers, Lethon	S	6-0	217	01/14/1973	7 Georgia Tech
31	Logan, Mike	CB	6-1	209	09/15/1974	5 West Virginia
22	Poteat, Hank	CB	5-10	198	08/30/1977	2 Pittsburgh
30	Scott, Chad	CB	6-1	201	09/06/1974	4 Maryland
26	Townsend, Deshea	CB	5-10	191	09/08/1975	4 Alabama
20	Washington, Dewayne	CB	6-0	193	12/27/1972	8 North Carolina State
28	Williams, Payton	CB	5-7	170	11/19/1978	1 Fresno State
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
97	Bell, Kendall	LB	6-1	246	07/17/1980	1 Georgia
58	Farrior, James	LB	6-2	239	01/06/1975	5 Virginia
92	Gildon, Jason	LB	6-4	252	07/31/1972	8 Oklahoma State
53	Haggans, Clark	LB	6-3	247	01/10/1977	2 Colorado State
51	Jones, Mike	LB	6-1	245	04/15/1969	11 Missouri
90	Kurpeikis, Justin	LB	6-3	248	07/17/1977	1 Penn State
55	Porter, Joey	LB	6-3	249	03/22/1977	3 Colorado State
54	Schneck, Mike	LB	6-1	246	08/04/1977	3 Wisconsin
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Miller, Josh	P	6-3	227	07/14/1970	6 Arizona
2	Peterson, Todd	K	5-10	180	02/04/1970	8 Georgia

## 2002 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	30	Simmons, Kendall	G	6-2	311	03/11/1979	Auburn
2	30	Randle El, Antwaan	WR	5-9	190	08/17/1979	Indiana
3	29	Hope, Chris	S	6-0	210	09/29/1980	Florida State
4	30	Footo, Larry	LB	6-1	231	06/12/1980	Michigan
5	31	Haynes, Verron	RB	5-10	224	02/17/1979	Georgia
6	30	Mays, Lee	WR	6-1	190	09/18/1978	UTEP
7	1	Glover, LaVar	CB	5-9	177	12/17/1978	Cincinnati
7	31	Keisel, Brett	DE	6-5	279	09/19/1978	Brigham Young



## With draft bringing hope for their anemic running game, Browns look to (William) Green-er pastures.

In Butch Davis' first season, the Browns had the league's worst offense. They ranked last in total offense and rushing and 28th in passing. The team Davis left, the Miami Hurricanes, had more offensive talent.

Davis' offensive problems weren't so evident early in the season when the Browns started 3-1 and had playoff aspirations. They teased their fans and stood 6-4 after 10 games, but they collapsed down the stretch and finished 1-5. They



Second-year man Jamel White came out of nowhere last year to start seven games at running back for the Browns, including a 131-yard performance late in the season against Green Bay. He finished with 443 rushing yards and placed second on the club with 44 receptions.

couldn't overcome the kind of injuries that can make the difference from playing in postseason or watching on television.

Quarterback Tim Couch, the top pick in the 1999 draft, could have sued for non-support. He spent most of his time on his back or running for his life. He just didn't have enough talent surrounding him. The leading rusher was rookie James Jackson, who gained 554 yards and averaged 2.8 per carry.

As a team, the Browns were outrushed 2,208 yards to 1,351. Opponents averaged 4.5 yards per carry to Cleveland's 3.2. Davis expects those depressing statistics to improve dramatically this season.

Because the Browns couldn't run against their mamas, opponents teed off on Couch, who was sacked 51 times and survived without surgery. He finished with 3,040 yards, 17 touchdowns, 21 interceptions and a passer rating of 73.1. That's not nearly good enough to win consistently in the NFL.

The problems couldn't be traced to Couch. He's got a strong arm, and he's fearless and reckless. He's also a team leader.

### OFFENSE

The problems began up front. The sad-sack offensive line, which often looked as if it had been wired together to keep the players upright, needed an influx of talent. The Browns signed Rams right tackle Ryan Tucker in free agency and drafted center Melvin Fowler in the third round.

With the changes up front, the running game should be vastly improved because Davis also drafted Boston College running back William Green in the first round. Green, an underclassman



Kevin Johnson's 1,097 receiving yards in 2001 was the second-highest single-season total in franchise history.

who can also catch, is ideally suited for Davis' system. He gives the Browns speed and durability and someone they can count on in third-and-short situations.

If Green gives the Browns what they expect, Couch will be the primary beneficiary. Once Couch completes a few passes down the field to soften the coverage, opponents won't be able to load up on the run.

Green isn't the only rookie who should contribute right away. Second-round pick Andre Davis, a receiver from Virginia Tech, should put pressure on Quincy Morgan for a starting job or become the third receiver. Davis has speed, toughness and intelligence.

The leading receiver is Kevin Johnson, a three-year veteran who excelled last season with 94 catches for 1,097 yards and nine touchdowns. Couch needs for other receivers to emerge to take the load off of Johnson. Last season, no other player contributed more than 44 receptions. The heat's on Morgan and Davis to step up and give the passing game some versatility.

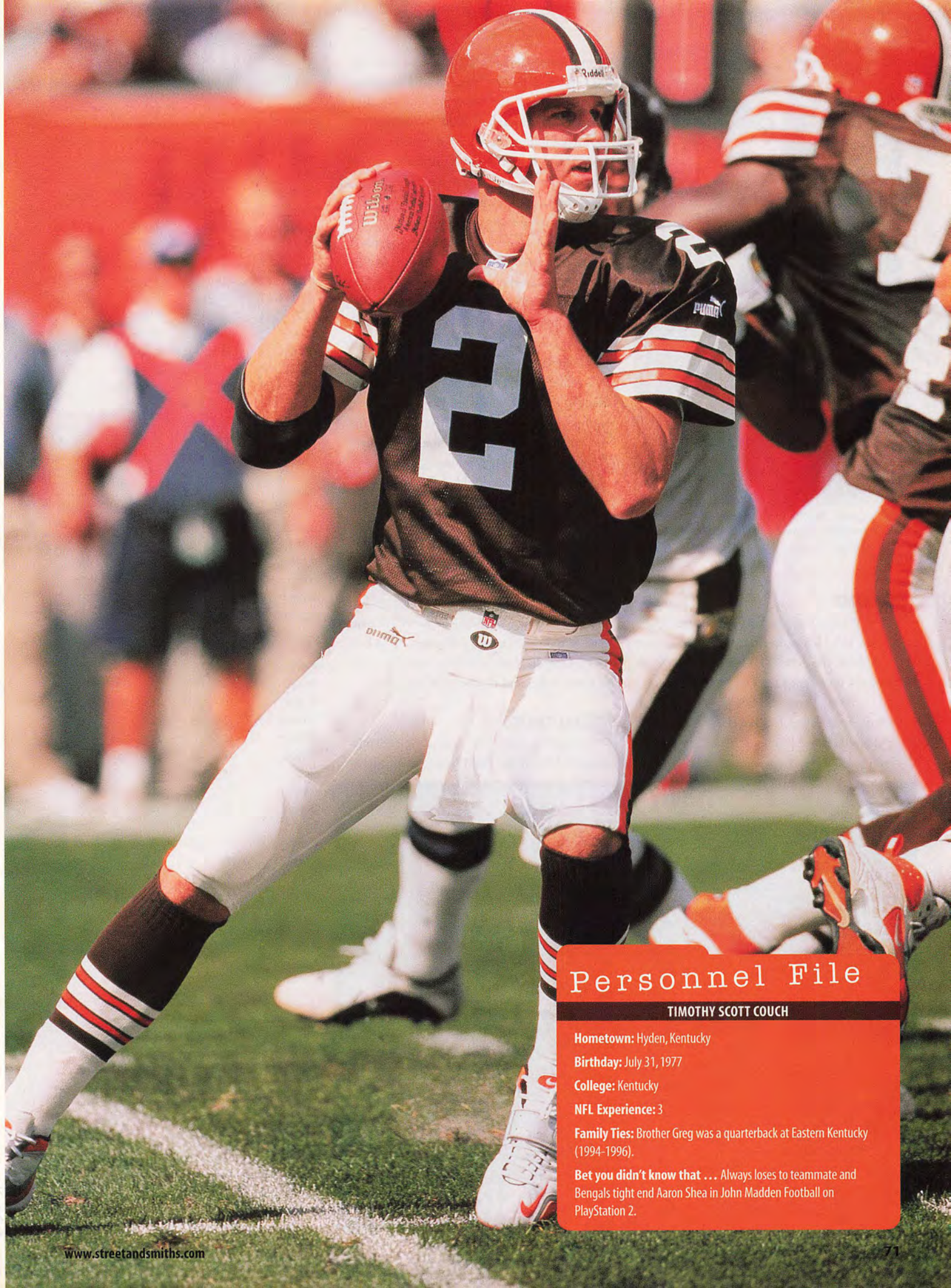
Those who have watched Couch take a consistent beating are excited to see him finally get some formidable weapons to use. But Couch and his teammates know that Davis has a defensive background, and the defense is his baby.

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	295.5	31	TOTAL DEFENSE	331.1	22
RUSHING	84.4	31	AGAINST RUSH	138.0	29
PASSING	175.1	28	AGAINST PASS	193.1	11
SCORING	285	25	PTS. ALLOWED	319	15
PUNT RETURNS	8.0	25	INTERCEPTIONS	33	1
KICK RETURNS	20.7	21	SACKS	43	14
RED ZONE TD %	42.9	24	TURNOVER DIFF.	+9	77







## Personnel File

**TIMOTHY SCOTT COUCH**

**Hometown:** Hyden, Kentucky

**Birthday:** July 31, 1977

**College:** Kentucky

**NFL Experience:** 3

**Family Ties:** Brother Greg was a quarterback at Eastern Kentucky (1994-1996).

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Always loses to teammate and Bengals tight end Aaron Shea in John Madden Football on PlayStation 2.





The first pick in the 2000 draft, defensive end Courtney Brown struggled through an injury-riddled campaign in 2001, missing 11 games.

## DEFENSE

The Browns were 22nd in defense, 29th against the run and 11th against the pass. To make sure they show the kind of improvement Davis demands, they signed three veteran free agents—end Kenard Lang, middle linebacker Earl Holmes and strong safety Robert Griffith—to fill need positions. All are above-average players who could excel in Davis' system.

Lang, who played mostly inside with the Redskins, must become more consistent against the run. Holmes needs to have the kind of season he had with Pittsburgh in 2000, not last season. Griffith needs to stay healthy and make the kinds of plays he used to make with the Vikings when he was one of the league's best at his position.

One reason the Browns led the league with 33 interceptions—including 10 by rookie cornerback Anthony Henry—is because they applied consistent pressure on the quarterback. Eleven Browns had at least one interception.

If the No. 1 picks from the previous two years, tackle Gerard Warren and end Courtney Brown, are on the field, the defense should become even more dominant.

Cleveland's best pass rusher is outside linebacker Jamir Miller, who had 13 sacks in the best season of his career. Miller drops down to rush much of the time, but he also gets after the quarterback from a stand-up position.

Miller and Dwayne Rudd are bookend linebackers around Holmes, who is better against the run than Wali Rainer, who went to Jacksonville. Holmes should bring that physical Steelers mentality to Cleveland's defense.

Griffith, who went to the Pro Bowl during an impressive career with Minnesota, should solidify the secondary. Henry, who made the All-Rookie Team, is the nickel corner. Although he's a ball hawk, Henry has been unable to beat out veterans Corey Fuller and Daylon McCutcheon.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

The kicking game is one of Cleveland's strengths. Placekicker Phil Dawson doesn't have

## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 7, Lost 9

DATE		SCORE	
09/09	L	6-9	Seattle
09/23	W	24-14	Detroit
09/30	W	23-14	at Jacksonville
10/07	W	20-16	San Diego
10/14	L	14-24	at Cincinnati
10/21	W	24-14	Baltimore
11/04	L	21-27	at Chicago
11/11	L	12-15	Pittsburgh
11/18	W	27-17	at Baltimore
11/25	W	18-0	Cincinnati
12/02	L	15-31	Tennessee
12/09	L	16-27	at New England
12/16	L	10-15	Jacksonville
12/23	L	7-30	at Green Bay
12/30	W	41-38	at Tennessee
01/06	L	7-28	at Pittsburgh

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Jackson	195	554	2.8	22	2
White	126	443	3.5	51	5
Gay	51	172	3.4	40	1
Couch	38	128	3.4	15	0
Morgon	2	27	13.5	23	0
Northcutt	3	26	8.7	12	0
Frost	1	1	1.0	1	0
Holcomb	1	0	0	0	0

Team	417	1351	3.2	51	8
Opponents	494	2208	4.5	54	11

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
K. Johnson	84	1097	13.1	55	9
White	44	418	9.5	45	1
Morgan	30	432	14.4	78	2
J. Dawson	22	281	12.8	44	1
Northcutt	18	211	11.7	26	0
Santiago	17	153	9.0	27	2
Shea	14	86	6.1	12	0
King	11	149	13.5	48	0
Dudley	9	115	12.8	27	0
Sellers	7	73	10.4	28	2
Germany	7	65	9.3	18	0
J. Jackson	7	56	8.0	16	0
Gay	4	11	2.8	7	0
J. Moreland	3	15	5.0	6	0
O'Hara	1	2	2.0	2	1

Team	279	3154	11.3	78	18
Opponents	309	3377	10.9	71t	18

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Couch	454	272	3040	17	21
Holcomb	12	7	114	1	0

Team	466	279	3154	18	21
Opponents	552	309	3377	18	33

## SACKS

Miller 13.0, Rogers 6.0, Warren 5.0, Brown 4.5, Spikes 4.0, McKenzie 3.0, McCutcheon 2.0, Smith 2.0, Ellsworth 1.0, Little 1.0, Rainer 1.0, Rudd 0.5

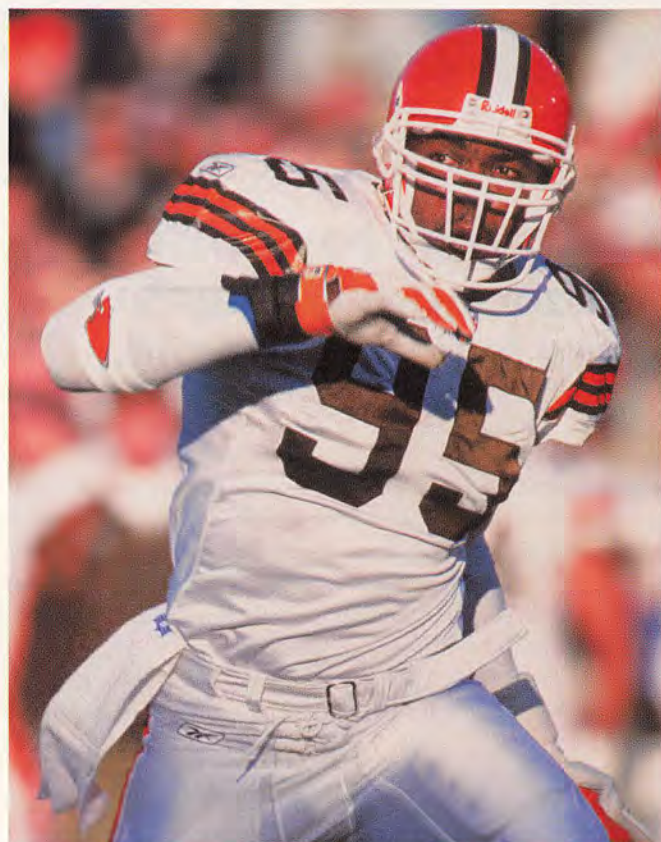
Browns 43.0, Opponents 51.0

## PROJECTED STARTERS

Bush FS X		Griffith SS X		KR Morgan X PR Northcutt X	
Rudd OLB X		Holmes MLB X		Miller OLB X	
McCutcheon CB X	Brown RE X	Royce RT X	Warren LT X	Lang LE X	Fuller CB X
Johnson WR ○	Verba LT ○	Stokes LG ○	Wohlabough C □	Johnson RG ○	Tucker RT ○
Dawson K ○		Green RB ○		Morgan WR ○	
Gardocki P ○		Shea FB ○		Couch QB ○	

# BROWNS





Linebacker Jamir Miller, who played in his first Pro Bowl last year, became the first Browns player to lead the AFC in sacks, with 13 in 2001.

a cannon leg, and he won't make anyone forget Lou Groza, but he missed only three field goals last season. Punter Chris Gardocki is one of the NFL's best. He gets distance and hang time, and he's accurate, too. He left 25 punts inside the 20 and had only nine touchbacks.

The return game is average, but the coverage teams were solid. Punt returner Dennis Northcutt (5.7-yard average) was pathetic. The team averaged eight yards to the opposition's 12.4. Kickoff returns were better. The team average was a mediocre 20.7, but it was better than the opponents' 18.7.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	KANSAS CITY	1:00
September 15	CINCINNATI	1:00
September 22	at Tennessee	1:00
September 29	at Pittsburgh	1:00
October 6	BALTIMORE	8:30
October 13	at Tampa Bay	4:15
October 20	HOUSTON	4:05
October 27	at NY Jets	1:00
November 3	PITTSBURGH	1:00
November 10	OPEN DATE	
November 17	at Cincinnati	1:00
November 24	at New Orleans	1:00
December 1	CAROLINA	1:00
December 8	at Jacksonville	1:00
December 15	INDIANAPOLIS	1:00
December 22	at Baltimore	4:15
December 29	ATLANTA	1:00

All times Eastern

## CLEVELAND BROWNS

Butch Davis, head coach

Terry Robiskie, wide receivers; Keith Butler, linebackers;

Bruce Arians, offensive coordinator; Ray Hamilton, defensive line;

Pete Garcia, assistant coach/football development; Todd Bowles, defensive nickel package; Carl Smith, quarterbacks;

Steve Hagen, tight ends; Todd McNair, running backs; Larry Zierlein, offensive line;

Fogge Fazio, defensive coordinator; Chuck Pagano, defensive backs coach

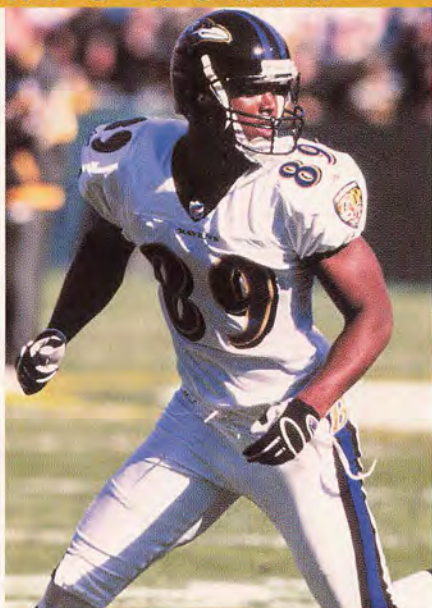
#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
12	Booty, Josh	QB	6-2	217	04/29/1978	0	LSU
2	Couch, Tim	QB	6-4	227	07/31/1977	3	Kentucky
10	Holcomb, Kelly	QB	6-2	212	07/09/1973	2	Middle Tennessee State
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
63	Bedell, Brad	T	6-4	299	02/12/1977	2	Colorado
69	Chanoine, Roger	T	6-4	295	08/11/1976	3	Temple
67	Johnson, Tre'	G	6-2	326	08/30/1971	8	Temple
65	Mercier, Richard	G	6-3	300	05/13/1975	0	Miami (FL)
60	O'Hara, Shaun	C	6-3	287	06/23/1977	2	Rutgers
79	Stokes, Barry	T	6-4	310	12/20/1973	3	Eastern Michigan
71	Sykes, Terrance	G	6-3	270	02/24/1979	0	Louisiana Tech
50	Tucker, Ryan	T	6-5	305	06/12/1975	5	Texas Christian
77	Verba, Ross	G	6-4	308	10/31/1973	5	Iowa
64	Wohlabaugh, Dave	C	6-3	292	04/13/1972	7	Syracuse
62	Zukauskas, Paul	T	6-6	315	07/12/1979	1	Boston College
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
42	Fair, Carl	RB	6-1	219	06/08/1979	1	UAB
29	Jackson, James	RB	5-10	209	08/04/1976	1	Miami (FL)
32	Johnson, J.J.	RB	6-1	230	04/24/1974	3	Mississippi State
30	White, Jamel	RB	5-9	208	02/11/1977	2	South Dakota
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
83	Campbell, Mark	TE	6-6	253	12/06/1975	2	Michigan
82	Cavil, Kwame	WR	6-2	203	05/03/1979	1	Texas
88	Dawson, JaJuan	WR	6-1	197	11/05/1977	2	Tulane
82	Dudley, Rickey	TE	6-6	255	07/15/1972	6	Ohio State
85	Johnson, Kevin	WR	5-11	195	07/15/1976	3	Syracuse
84	King, Andre	WR	5-11	195	11/26/1973	1	Miami (FL)
48	Monroe, Rodrick	TE	6-5	245	07/30/1975	2	Cincinnati
81	Morgan, Quincy	WR	6-1	209	09/23/1977	1	Kansas State
47	Morrow, Alvin	TE	6-4	260	04/28/1978	0	None
86	Northcutt, Dennis	WR	5-11	175	12/22/1977	2	Arizona
12	O'Connor, Drew	WR	6-3	211	02/02/1976	0	Maine
81	Sanders, Chris	WR	6-1	188	05/08/1972	7	Ohio State
80	Shea, Aaron	TE	6-3	244	12/05/1976	2	Michigan
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
92	Brown, Courtney	DE	6-4	266	02/14/1978	2	Penn State
70	Caldwell, Cecil	DT	6-1	268	02/23/1977	0	South Carolina
79	Claybrooks, DeVone	DT	6-3	292	09/15/1977	0	East Carolina
74	Claybrooks, Felipe	DE	6-4	260	01/22/1978	1	Georgia Tech
98	Gregory, Damian	DT	6-2	305	01/21/1977	1	Illinois State
75	Ham, Derrick	DE	6-4	257	03/23/1975	2	Miami (FL)
71	Hyder, Gaylon	DT	6-5	290	10/18/1974	2	Texas Christian
97	Kuehl, Ryan	DT	6-5	290	01/18/1972	5	Virginia
90	Lang, Kenard	DE	6-4	281	01/31/1975	5	Miami (FL)
70	McKinley, Alvin	DT	6-3	292	06/09/1978	2	Mississippi State
98	Miller, Arnold	DE	6-3	239	01/03/1975	2	LSU
78	Rogers, Tyrone	DE	6-5	236	10/11/1976	3	Alabama State
99	Royce, Orpheus	DT	6-4	313	01/21/1974	6	Florida State
93	Smith, Mark	DT	6-4	294	08/28/1974	5	Auburn
91	Spriggs, Marcus	DT	6-4	314	07/26/1976	2	Troy State
94	Warren, Gerard	DT	6-4	322	07/25/1978	1	Florida
96	Word, Mark	DE	6-4	282	11/23/1975	1	Jacksonville State
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
36	Akins, Chris	S	5-11	195	11/29/1976	3	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
23	Bush, Devin	S	6-0	210	07/03/1973	7	Florida State
26	Carter, Dyshod	CB	5-10	197	06/18/1978	1	Kansas State
27	Chapman, Lamar	CB	6-0	186	11/06/1976	2	Kansas State
24	Fuller, Corey	CB	5-10	205	05/01/1971	7	Florida State
24	Griffith, Robert	S	5-11	197	11/30/1970	8	San Diego State
37	Henry, Anthony	CB	6-0	198	11/03/1976	1	South Florida
	Jameson, Michael	CB	5-11	188	12/16/1976	0	Texas A&M
20	Little, Earl	S	6-0	198	03/10/1973	4	Miami (FL)
33	McCutcheon, Daylon	CB	5-10	180	12/09/1976	3	Southern California
38	Moreland, Earthwind	CB	5-11	185	06/13/1977	2	Georgia Southern
25	Sanders, Lewis	CB	6-0	200	06/22/1978	1	Maryland
21	Smith, Marquis	S	6-2	213	01/13/1975	3	California
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
52	Boyer, Brant	LB	6-1	230	06/27/1971	8	Arizona
55	Denman, Anthony	LB	6-1	236	10/30/1979	1	Notre Dame
50	Harris, Anthony	LB	6-1	240	01/25/1973	4	Auburn
50	Holmes, Earl	LB	6-2	245	04/28/1973	6	Florida A&M
51	Jones, Lenoy	LB	6-1	235	09/25/1974	6	Texas Christian
95	Miller, Jamir	LB	6-5	266	11/19/1973	8	UCLA
57	Rudd, Dwayne	LB	6-2	237	02/03/1976	5	Alabama
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Dawson, Phil	K	5-11	190	01/23/1975	3	Texas
17	Gardocki, Chris	P	6-1	200	02/07/1970	11	Clemson

## 2002 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	16	Green, William	RB	6-0	221	12/17/1979	Boston College
2	15	Davis, Andre'	WR	6-1	195	06/12/1979	Virginia Tech
3	11	Fowler Jr., Melvin	C	6-2	300	03/31/1979	Maryland
4	3	Bentley, Kevin	LB	6-0	243	12/29/1979	Northwestern
4	13	Taylor, Ben	LB	6-2	236	08/31/1978	Virginia Tech
4	24	Sanders, Darnell	TE	6-6	267	03/16/1979	Ohio State
5	6	Davis, Andra	LB	6-1	244	12/23/1978	Florida
7	16	Gonzalez, Joaquin	T	6-4	293	09/07/1979	Miami (FL)



# Baltimore Ravens



Travis Taylor (top) developed into a dependable receiver for the Ravens in his second season, with 42 receptions, and grabbed a 45-yard pass and a four-yard touchdown in a playoff win over Miami. At bottom, the Ravens are hoping to have 2000 rushing sensation Jamal Lewis bounce back after missing all of last season with a torn ACL.

## With the salary cap having taken its toll on once-great defense, Ravens are forced to rebuild.

**D**uring the offseason, the big story in Baltimore was the demolition of what was one of the best defenses in NFL history. Coach Brian Billick had a lot of difficult decisions to make.

Ultimately, the Ravens were ravaged because of the salary cap, sacrificing such starters as tackle Sam Adams, end Rob Burnett, outside linebacker Jamie Sharper, cornerback Duane Starks and safeties Rod Woodson and Corey Harris.

Tackle Tony Siragusa retired before he was waived because of cap restraints. Tackle Lionel Dalton bolted for Denver, where he got a larger contract.

To make matters even worse for a defense that ranked second overall, fourth against the run and eighth against the pass, the Ravens lost defensive coordinator Marvin Lewis to the Redskins. Lewis is outstanding. His replacement, Mike Nolan, isn't.

### DEFENSE

Nolan takes over a defense that's switching to a 3-4 alignment, which isn't ideally suited for their second-best pass rusher, end Michael McCrary, who has recovered from the knee injury that prematurely ended last season for him. Expect second-round pick Anthony Weaver of Notre Dame to earn a starting spot at end, with Kelly Gregg taking over the new nose tackle position.

The player who should benefit the most from the 3-4 scheme is outside linebacker Peter Boulware, who led the team with 15 sacks last season. He'll get to stand up in the three-man front and drop down in passing situations. Boulware is capable of registering 20 sacks in Nolan's alignment.

Adalius Thomas replaces Sharper at the other outside spot. Edgerton Hartwell plays inside next to Ray Lewis, who remains the heart and soul of Baltimore's defense, if not the team. But Lewis is going to miss having Siragusa and Adams around because they did an exceptional job of keeping blocks away from him.

The secondary is no different than other areas of Baltimore's defense because it's also under transition. Top draft pick Edward Reed was a shrewd selection at free safety. Reed started four years at Miami, where he was the dynamic leader on and off the field. He has big shoes to fill in taking Woodson's place, but if anyone can do it, Reed can. He's not a big hitter, but he's got speed, range, intelligence and a knack for getting to the ball.

Reed and strong safety Anthony Mitchell will back cornerbacks Chris McAlister and Gary Baxter. McAlister is still one of the best in the league at his position. He's a shut-down corner who can be counted on every Sunday. Baxter, last year's second-round pick, was planning to replace Woodson, but the selection of Reed allows him to stay at his normal position.

### OFFENSE

Because the defense is in such a state of flux, Billick would like nothing more than for the offense to pick up the slack. But that's going to be difficult for several reasons, beginning at quarterback.

Not since the 1996 and 1997 seasons—their first two years in Baltimore—have the Ravens started a quarterback who was No. 1 the season before. This is the sixth consecutive year the Ravens will have a different starter. Chris Redman, a third-year man, enters camp as Billick's fourth starter in four seasons.

Redman, who didn't throw a pass last season, follows Vinny Testaverde (1996-97), Jim Harbaugh (1998), Tony Banks (1999), Trent Dilfer (2000) and Elvis Grbac (2001) as Baltimore's starting quarterbacks.

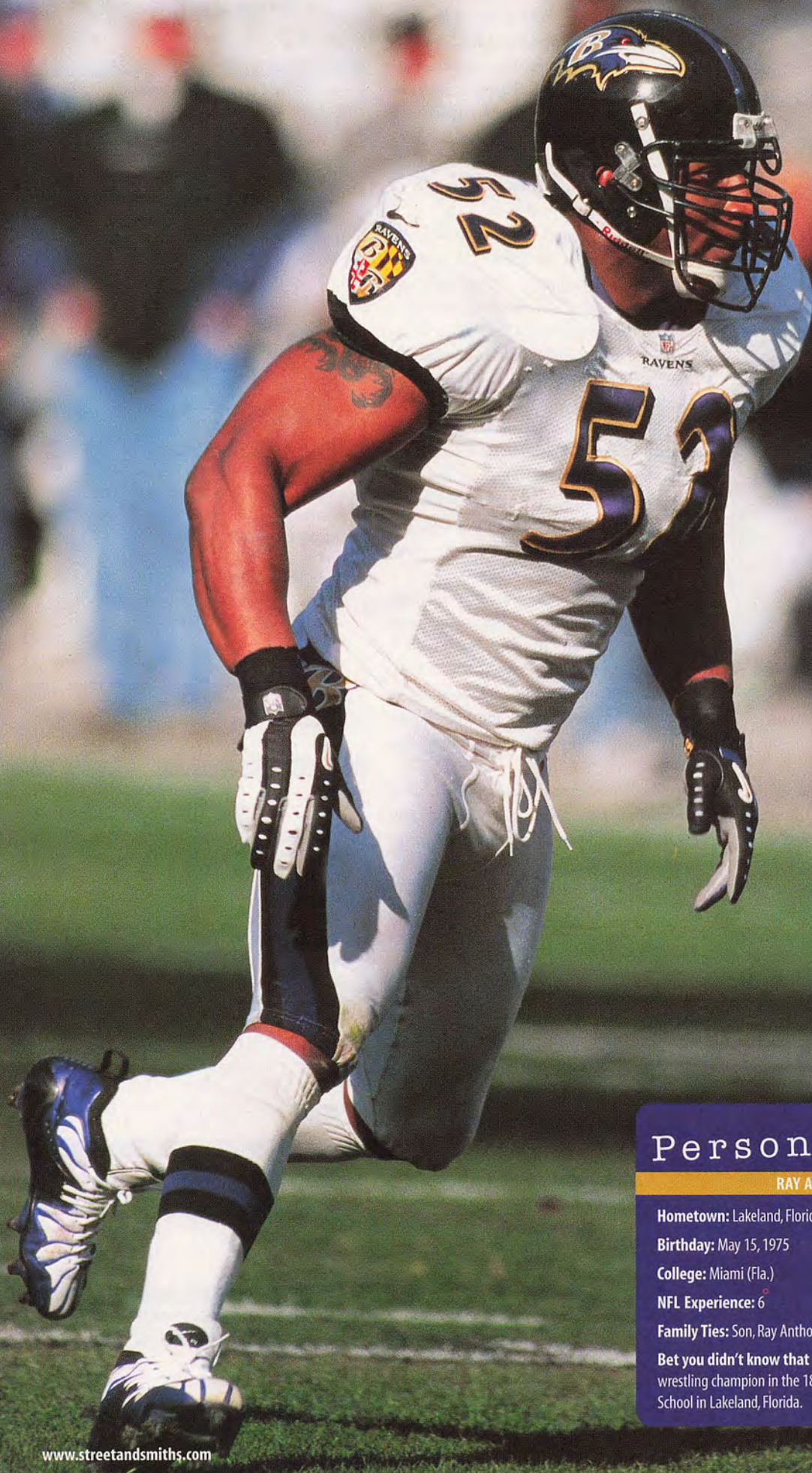
Grbac's one season with the Ravens was so traumatic he retired rather than accept Cincinnati's

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	320.3	14	TOTAL DEFENSE	277.9	2
RUSHING	113.1	11	AGAINST RUSH	88.2	4
PASSING	207.1	16	AGAINST PASS	189.7	8
SCORING	303	18	PTS. ALLOWED	265	4
PUNT RETURNS	11.7	5	INTERCEPTIONS	16	21
KICK RETURNS	23.6	3	SACKS	45	9
RED ZONE TD %	41.1	26	TURNOVER DIFF.	-8	23







## Personnel File

### RAY ANTHONY LEWIS

**Hometown:** Lakeland, Florida

**Birthday:** May 15, 1975

**College:** Miami (Fla.)

**NFL Experience:** 6

**Family Ties:** Son, Ray Anthony Lewis Jr., 7.

**Bet you didn't know that . . .** Ray was the 1993 state 4A wrestling champion in the 189-pound weight class at Kathleen High School in Lakeland, Florida.





Playing mostly at defensive end after a season-ending injury to Michael McCrary, Peter Boulware set a Ravens team record in 2001 with 15 sacks, which led the AFC.

offer. He passed for 3,033 yards, but he threw only 15 touchdowns compared to 18 interceptions, and completed only 56.7 percent. His passer rating was a miserable 71.1.

Grbac's tendency to throw to the wrong jersey contributed to the Ravens being minus-eight in turnover differential. Rather than accept a monster pay cut, Grbac did the Ravens a favor and was waived, opening the door for Redman, a third-round pick in 2000 who threw three passes as a rookie. He's had two years to learn from Billick, but he doesn't have the weapons that the quarterbacks before him enjoyed.

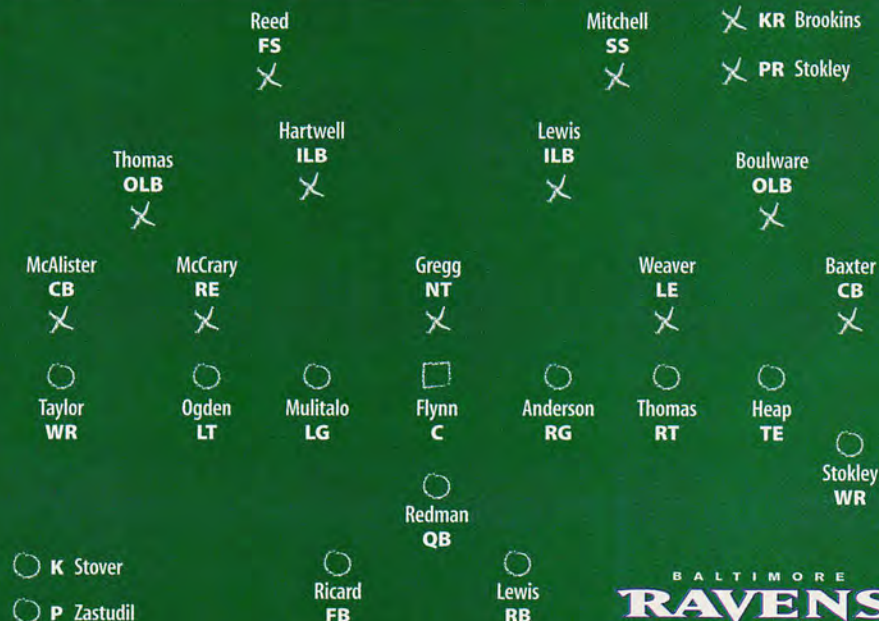
Receiver Qadry Ismail (74 catches) and tight end Shannon Sharpe (73) are gone. The running game was better than anyone expected last season because Billick did a remarkable job of using a back-by-committee approach. Terry Allen led the team in rushing with 658 yards, hardly the production they got from Jamal Lewis during his rookie season.

The biggest blow the Ravens suffered last year happened when Lewis blew out his knee and was lost for the season. After rushing for 1,364 yards and leading the Ravens to a Super Bowl XXXV victory, Lewis was sidelined for the season. But now he's back and, if he's as good as he was in 2000, he'll take a load off of Redman.

What the offense needs more than anything is for receiver Travis Taylor (42 catches) and tight end Todd Heap (16), both former No. 1 picks, to take their games to the next level. Both have the ability to become outstanding players, but injuries (Taylor) and opportunity (Heap) haven't allowed them to realize their potential.

Brandon Stokley isn't as gifted as Taylor, but as a possession receiver, he has to get open and give Redman the confidence to throw to him in critical situations.

## PROJECTED STARTERS



BALTIMORE  
**RAVENS**

## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 10, Lost 6

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 17-6	Chicago
09/23	L 10-21	at Cincinnati
09/30	W 20-13	at Denver
10/07	W 26-7	Tennessee
10/14	L 23-31	at Green Bay
10/21	L 14-24	at Cleveland
10/28	W 18-17	Jacksonville
11/04	W 13-10	at Pittsburgh
11/12	W 16-10	at Tennessee
11/18	L 17-27	Cleveland
11/25	W 24-21	at Jacksonville
12/02	W 39-27	Indianapolis
12/16	L 21-26	Pittsburgh
12/23	W 16-0	Cincinnati
12/29	L 10-22	at Tampa Bay
01/07	W 19-3	Minnesota

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Allen	168	658	3.9	26	3
Brookins	151	551	3.6	25	5
Williams	65	291	4.5	55	0
Ayanbadejo	46	173	3.8	17	1
Taylor	5	46	9.2	16	0
Cunningham	14	40	2.9	15	1
Lewis	9	33	3.7	14	0
Grbac	21	18	0.9	6	1
Stokley	1	1	4.0	1	0
Richardson	1	0	0	0	0

Team	483	1810	3.7	55	11
Opponents	410	1411	3.4	38	10

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Ismail	74	1059	14.3	77	7
Sharpe	73	811	11.1	37	2
Taylor	42	560	13.3	63	3
Stokley	24	344	14.3	46	2
Ayanbadejo	24	121	5.0	18	1
Williams	23	210	9.1	46	0
Allen	17	68	4.0	11	0
Heap	16	206	12.9	24	1
Gash	9	80	8.9	16	1
Brookins	6	45	7.5	15	0
Johnson	5	57	11.4	25	1
Je. Lewis	4	32	8.0	12	0
Jones	2	13	6.5	13	0

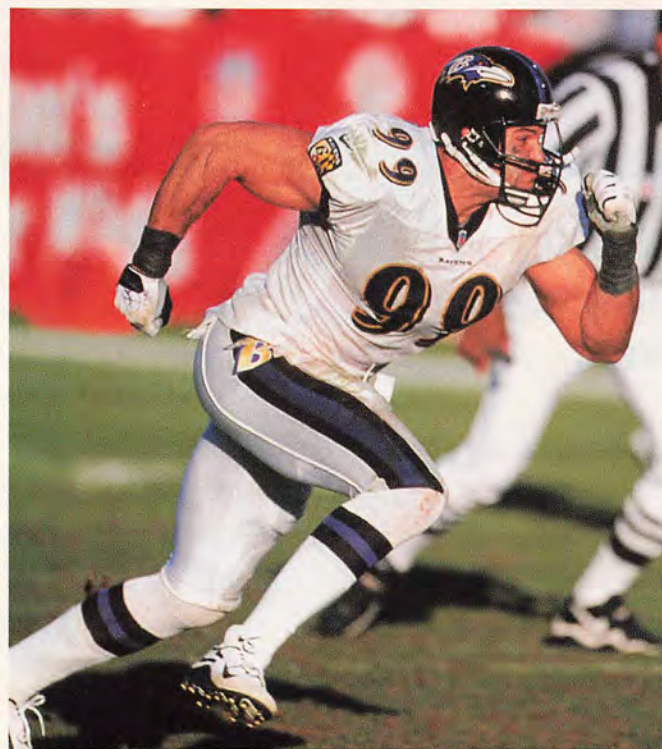
Team	320	3595	11.2	77t	18
Opponents	321	3325	10.4	90t	16

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Grbac	467	265	3033	15	18
Cunningham	89	54	573	3	2
Team	557	320	3595	18	20
Opponents	555	321	3325	16	16

SACKS	
Boulware 15.0, McCrary 7.5, Harris 6.0, R. Lewis 3.5, Thomas 3.5, Adams 2.0, Siragusa 2.0, Douglas 1.0, Gregg 1.0, Taylor 1.0, Trapp 1.0	

Team 45.0, Opponents 40.0





Defensive end Michael McCrary had 7.5 sacks in 2001 despite missing six games with a knee injury.

The offensive line, anchored by tackle Jonathan Ogden and guard Ed Mulitalo on the left side, needs to show a lot of improvement on the right side.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Year-in and year-out, the most reliable Raven may be kicker Matt Stover. Like wine, furniture and classic cars, the 34-year-old placekicker becomes more valuable with age. Last season, Stover connected on 30 of 35 field goals and scored 115 points.

Return specialist Jermaine Lewis was lost in the expansion draft because of the cap. Punter Kyle Richardson, who was money with 29 punts inside the 20, left as a free agent. They replaced him with Dave Zastudil, the best punter in the draft.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Carolina	1:00
September 15	TAMPA BAY	1:00
September 22	OPEN DATE	
September 30	DENVER	9:00
October 6	at Cleveland	8:30
October 13	at Indianapolis	1:00
October 20	JACKSONVILLE	1:00
October 27	PITTSBURGH	1:00
November 3	at Atlanta	1:00
November 10	CINCINNATI	1:00
November 17	at Miami	1:00
November 24	TENNESSEE	1:00
December 1	at Cincinnati	1:00
December 8	NEW ORLEANS	4:05
December 15	at Houston	1:00
December 22	CLEVELAND	4:15
December 29	at Pittsburgh	1:00

All times Eastern

## BALTIMORE RAVENS

**Brian Billick**, head coach

**Matt Cavanaugh**, offensive coordinator; **Jim Colletto**, offensive line; **Mike Smith**, linebackers; **Jeff Friday**, strength and conditioning; **Wade Harman**, tight ends/assistant offensive line; **Donnie Henderson**, assistant defensive backs; **Milt Jackson**, offensive assistant; **Mike Nolan**, defensive coordinator; **Mark Asanovich**, assistant strength and conditioning; **Gary Zauner**, special teams; **Rex Ryan**, defensive line; **Steve Shafer**, defensive backs/assistant head coach; **Matt Simon**, running backs; **David Shaw**, quarterbacks/receivers; **Phil Zacharias**, defensive assistant

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
18	Blake, Jeff	QB	6-0	210	12/04/1970	9	East Carolina
7	Redman, Chris	QB	6-3	223	07/07/1977	2	Louisville

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
66	Anderson, Bennie	G	6-5	305	02/17/1977	1	Tennessee State
74	Bobo, Orlando	G	6-3	320	02/09/1974	5	Northeast Louisiana
62	Flynn, Mike	C	6-3	300	06/15/1974	4	Maine
70	Hellestrae, Dale	C	6-5	291	07/11/1962	15	Southern Methodist
59	Maese, Joe	C	6-0	241	12/02/1978	1	New Mexico
64	Mulitalo, Edwin	G	6-3	340	09/01/1974	3	Arizona
75	Ogden, Jonathan	T	6-8	340	07/31/1974	6	UCLA
61	Rabach, Casey	C	6-4	301	09/24/1977	0	Wisconsin
65	Thomas, Jason	G	6-3	300	06/10/1977	0	Hampton
78	Williams, Sammy	T	6-5	318	12/14/1974	3	Oklahoma

#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
30	Ayanbadejo, Obafemi	RB	6-2	235	03/05/1975	4	San Diego State
44	Brookins, Jason	RB	6-0	235	01/05/1976	1	Lane
31	Lewis, Jamal	RB	5-11	231	08/28/1979	1	Tennessee
39	Ricard, Alan	RB	5-11	237	01/17/1977	1	Louisiana-Monroe

#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
85	Burrough, Jonathan	TE	6-4	256	08/30/1978	0	New Mexico
81	Hambrick, Kenyon	WR	6-0	190	05/02/1978	0	Alabama A&M
86	Heap, Todd	TE	6-5	252	03/16/1980	1	Arizona State
88	Jones, John	TE	6-4	255	04/04/1975	2	Indiana (PA)
80	Stokley, Brandon	WR	5-11	197	06/23/1976	3	Southwestern Louisiana
89	Taylor, Travis	WR	6-1	200	03/30/1979	2	Florida

#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
95	Adams, Sam	DT	6-3	330	06/13/1973	8	Texas A&M
94	Douglas, Marques	DE	6-2	270	03/05/1977	2	Howard
73	Gregg, Kelly	DT	6-0	285	11/01/1976	2	Oklahoma
99	McCrary, Michael	DE	6-4	260	07/07/1970	9	Wake Forest
96	Thomas, Adalius	DE	6-2	270	08/17/1977	2	Southern Mississippi

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
28	Baxter, Gary	CB	6-2	204	11/24/1978	1	Baylor
22	Houston, Martavius	S	6-0	215	03/08/1976	0	Auburn
21	McAlister, Chris	CB	6-1	206	06/14/1977	3	Arizona
42	Mitchell, Anthony	S	6-1	211	12/13/1974	2	Tuskegee
24	Porter, Alvin	CB	5-11	175	05/10/1977	1	Oklahoma State

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
58	Boulware, Peter	LB	6-4	255	12/18/1974	5	Florida State
56	Hartwell, Edgerton	LB	6-1	250	05/27/1978	1	Western Illinois
52	Lewis, Ray	LB	6-1	245	05/15/1975	6	Miami (FL)
54	Taylor, Shannon	LB	6-3	247	02/16/1975	2	Virginia

#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
12	Kight, Danny	K	6-0	214	08/18/1971	3	Augusta College
3	Stover, Matt	K	5-11	178	01/27/1968	11	Louisiana Tech

## 2002 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	24	Reed, Edward	S	5-11	205	09/11/1978	Miami (FL)
2	20	Weaver, Anthony	DE	6-3	296	07/28/1980	Notre Dame
4	14	Zastudil, Dave	P	6-3	222	10/26/1978	Ohio
4	25	Johnson, Ron	WR	6-2	225	05/23/1980	Minnesota
5	20	Jones Jr., Terry	TE	6-3	265	12/03/1979	Alabama
6	23	Brightful, Lamont	WR	5-9	155	01/29/1979	Eastern Washington
6	34	Hunter, Javin	WR	5-11	186	05/09/1980	Notre Dame
6	35	Taylor, Chester	RB	5-11	213	09/22/1979	Toledo
6	37	Williams, Chad	S	5-9	207	01/22/1979	Southern Mississippi
7	25	Pate, Wes	QB	6-2	228	03/24/1979	Stephen F. Austin



## High draft choices are catching up to the Bengals, who could be good in spite of themselves.

It would be misleading to discuss the Bengals positively without mentioning their pathetic past. They haven't posted a winning record since 1990, which was also their last playoff season. They've gone 11 consecutive years without a winning record. During that period, eight seasons ended with double-digit defeats, including the last four.

Just how bad have the Bengals been since

1991? They've been the worst team in the NFL. Their 53-123 record is so bad even Arizona (63-113) is better. Cincinnati

has employed four head coaches over the last 11 years, the same as the Cardinals.

Dick LeBeau, who begins his third season, seems to have the Bengals on the precipice of the playoffs.

Mike Brown, owner/president, is a good man who stands for everything that is bad about the Bengals: It's a family-owned, family-run business, which is one of the problems.

But even Brown may get a chance to smile this season because the Bengals have been stockpiling so many high draft choices because of their ineptness that they may reach the playoffs in spite of themselves.

Last season, the Bengals "exploded" out of the blocks by going 2-0. They also finished in a 2-0 flurry. Unfortunately, they had to play the rest of their games, and they were 2-10 between the fast start and fast finish.

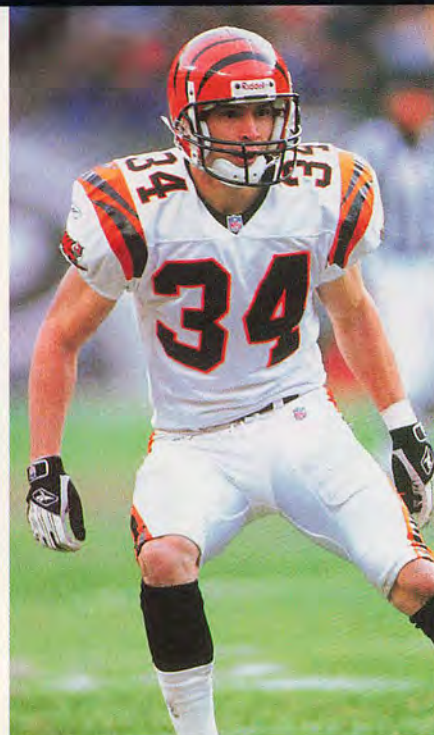
The biggest problem was scoring. The Bengals scored at least 20 points six times, and they were 6-0 in those games, which means they were 0-10 when they didn't. Five times they failed to score in double figures.

### OFFENSE

Perhaps the only thing keeping Cincinnati from being viewed as a genuine playoff contender is quarterback Jon Kitna. In his first season as the starter, Kitna threw 581 passes, way too many for a team that employs running back Corey Dillon.

Kitna threw for 3,216 yards and 12 touchdowns. He was sacked only 25 times—not bad for attempting that many passes. But he also threw 22 interceptions, and his passer rating was an abysmal 61.1.

*Quarterback Jon Kitna finished last season with back-to-back 300-yard games, throwing for 411 yards against Pittsburgh and then torching the Titans for 340 in the finale. It was the highest back-to-back total in Bengal history.*



Second-year cornerback Kevin Kaesviharn was one of the feel-good stories of the NFL's 2001 season, going from a job as a substitute teacher in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to signing with Cincinnati's practice squad to starting the final three games and tying for the team lead in interceptions.

It was no secret that the Bengals wanted to replace Kitna in the offseason, but they were rebuked by Elvis Grbac and Drew Bledsoe. They missed out on a chance to draft Joey Harrington when he was selected higher than projected. Kitna should be more comfortable with a season as a Bengal under his belt. He must find a way to throw the ball down the field to Peter Warrick, the team's leading receiver who had 70 catches but averaged only 9.5 yards per catch and scored just one touchdown.

Kitna has to get the ball to Warrick, Darnay Scott (57 catches for 819 yards) and Chad Johnson (28 for 329) down the field to stretch the defense and keep Dillon from being smothered at the line of scrimmage.

Dillon ran for 1,315 yards and 10 touchdowns. He scored three times on receptions. No other player scored more than two touchdowns. Talk about a one-man band. No wonder opponents loaded up the line of scrimmage in running situations.

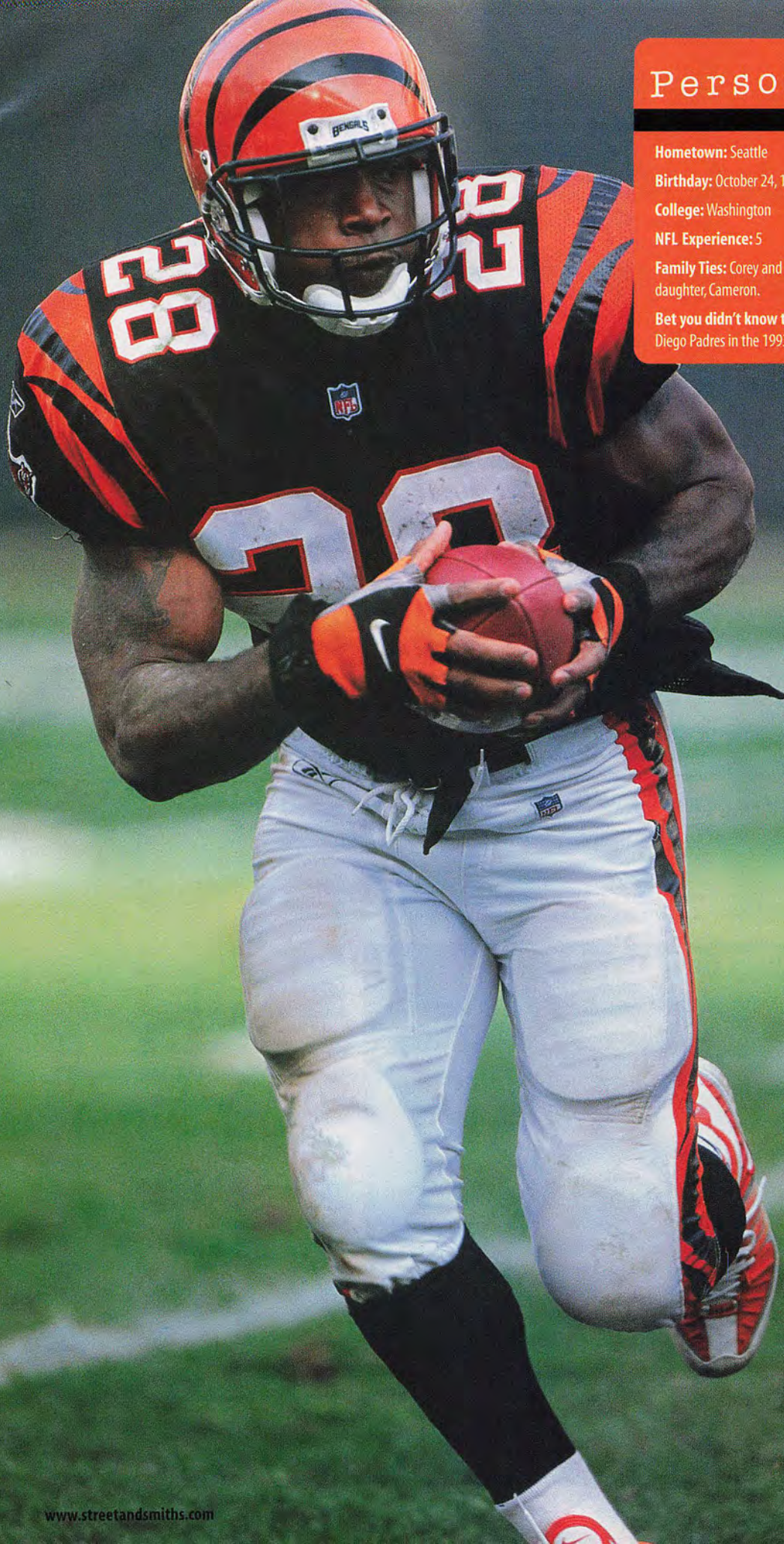
No one was more impressed with the Bengals' No. 1 pick more than Dillon. Inserting Arizona

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	300.0	23	TOTAL DEFENSE	302.0	9
RUSHING	107.0	18T	AGAINST RUSH	104.7	11
PASSING	193.0	23	AGAINST PASS	197.3	12
SCORING	226	31	PTS. ALLOWED	309	14
PUNT RETURNS	9.4	18	INTERCEPTIONS	13	25
KICK RETURNS	19.8	28	SACKS	48	3
RED ZONE TD %	41.3	25	TURNOVER DIFF.	-9	24T







## Personnel File

### COREY DILLON

**Hometown:** Seattle

**Birthday:** October 24, 1975

**College:** Washington

**NFL Experience:** 5

**Family Ties:** Corey and his wife, Desiree, have a 2-year-old daughter, Cameron.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Corey was selected by the San Diego Padres in the 1993 free-agent baseball draft.



State's Levi Jones at left tackle opposite Willie Anderson would bring tears to any running back's eyes. Brown took a lot of heat for taking Jones, but he could start for 10 years and protect the quarterback's blind side. Anderson and Jones help give the Bengals a top-notch line that run-blocks and pass-protects equally well.

## DEFENSE

Although the offense should be improved over last season when it ranked 23rd overall—including tied for 18th in rushing and 23rd in passing—the defense is the reason many NFL experts believe the Bengals have a chance to reach the playoffs.



Cincinnati was ninth in defense, 11th against the run and 12th against the pass. During an 0-3 stretch late in the season, they scored only 24 points and lost by three, four and one.

Nine times the Bengals allowed 18 or fewer points. If the offense had been anything other than bad to mediocre, they might have finished with a winning record.

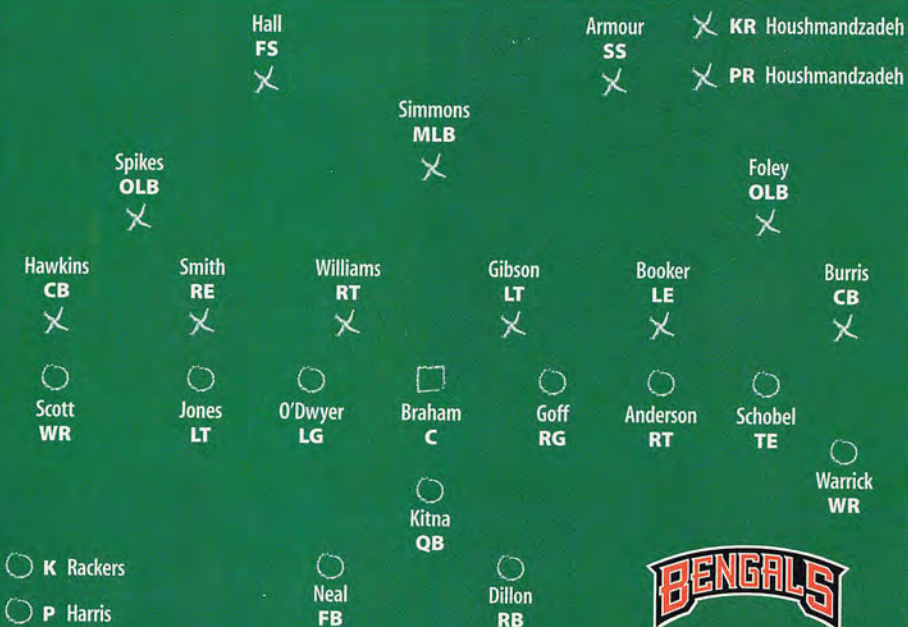
The strength of the defense is the front seven. Ends Justin Smith and Reinard Wilson are former No. 1 picks who combined for 17.5 of the team's 48 sacks. Usually, teams with a plus-20 in sack differential don't finish 6-10, but, somehow, the Bengals managed to do it.

End Vaughn Booker and tackles Tony Williams and Oliver Gibson don't get as much attention as their teammates because they specialize in stopping the run, but they're part of the equation that gives the Bengals a superb defense.

Two more former first-round draft choices, Takeo Spikes and Brian Simmons, are on the verge of stardom. They combined for 12.5 sacks. Spikes, the physical and feisty leader of the defense, is starting to get some recognition for being one of the best outside linebackers in the league. He'd benefit more than any Bengal if they finally reach the playoffs. Simmons, who plays in the middle, ranks in the class right behind that elite group that dominates Pro Bowl voting every year. Steve Foley, who's very solid opposite Spikes, doesn't get much attention because there are only so many spotlights to go around.

*Peter Warrick's 121 receptions in 2000 and 2001 are the most ever by a Bengal in his first two seasons.*

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 6, Lost 10

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 23-17	New England
09/23	W 21-10	Baltimore
09/30	L 14-28	at San Diego
10/07	L 7-16	at Pittsburgh
10/14	W 24-14	Cleveland
10/21	L 0-24	Chicago
10/28	W 31-27	at Detroit
11/11	L 13-30	at Jacksonville
11/18	L 7-20	Tennessee
11/25	L 0-18	at Cleveland
12/02	L 13-16	Tampa Bay
12/09	L 10-14	Jacksonville
12/16	L 14-15	at N.Y. Jets
12/23	L 0-16	at Baltimore
12/30	W 26-23	Pittsburgh
01/06	W 23-21	at Tennessee

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Dillon	340	1315	3.9	96	10
Bennett	50	232	4.6	36	0
Kitna	27	73	2.7	20	1
Keaton	5	48	9.6	21	0
Smith	6	20	3.3	6	0
Warrick	8	14	1.8	13	0
Neal	5	10	2.0	4	0
Team	441	1712	3.9	96t	11
Opponents	453	1675	3.7	48	10

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Warrick	70	667	9.5	33	1
Scott	57	819	14.4	49	2
Dillon	34	228	6.7	17	3
C. Johnson	28	329	11.8	28	1
Dugans	28	251	9.0	31	2
Houshmandz	21	228	10.9	23	0
Bennett	20	150	7.5	15	0
Neal	19	101	5.3	12	1
Farmer	15	228	15.2	27	1
McGee	14	148	10.6	25	1
Battaglia	13	118	9.1	17	0
McMullen	2	15	7.5	11	0
Keaton	1	9	9.0	9	0
Team	322	3291	10.2	49	12
Opponents	311	3477	11.2	47	23

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Kitna	581	313	3216	12	22
Mitchell	12	4	38	0	3
Smith	8	5	37	0	0
Dillon	1	0	0	0	1

Team	602	322	3291	12	26
Opponents	512	311	3477	23	13

## SACKS

Wilson 9.0, Smith 8.5, Simmons 6.5, Spikes 6.0, T. Williams 5.0, D. Williams 3.5, Gibson 3.0, Roman 2.0, Booker 1.5, Ross 1.0, Steele 1.0

Bengals 48.0, Opponents 28.0





# CINCINNATI BENGALS

Dick LeBeau, head coach

Paul Alexander, offensive line; Jim Anderson, running backs;

Louie Cioffi, defensive staff assistant; Mark Duffner, defensive coordinator/linebackers; Darren Perry, safeties;

Tim Krumrie, defensive line; Steve Mooshagian, wide receivers; Al Roberts, special teams;

John Garrett, tight ends; Kim Wood, strength and conditioning; Ken Anderson, quarterbacks;

Ken Coyle, defensive backs/cornerbacks; Bob Surace, offensive assistant



The 2001's draft's fourth overall pick, Justin Smith, came back from a contract holdout that caused him to miss the season opener to record 8.5 sacks, the highest mark ever for a Cincinnati rookie.

If there's a weak area on the defense, it's the secondary. The Bengals intercepted only 13 passes, half of what their opponents picked off. They resigned cornerback Artrell Hawkins and strong safety JoJuan Armour. They also signed cornerback Jeff Burris as a free agent. Hawkins and Burris have experience, but neither is going to make the Pro Bowl.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Kicker Neil Rackers scored only 74 points after connecting on 17 of 28 field goal attempts. He has to do better. Punter Nick Harris had a net average of just 33.9, but he also had only six touchbacks and left 21 punts inside the 20.

The Bengals hope receiver T.J. Houshmandzadeh becomes as difficult to tackle as his name is to pronounce. He's taking over all of the return responsibilities. Houshmandzadeh didn't return as many punts as Warrick, but his 13.6-yard average doubled Warrick's 6.4.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	SAN DIEGO	1:00
September 15	at Cleveland	1:00
September 22	at Atlanta	8:30
September 29	TAMPA BAY	4:05
October 6	at Indianapolis	1:00
October 13	PITTSBURGH	1:00
October 20	OPEN DATE	
October 27	TENNESSEE	1:00
November 3	at Houston	1:00
November 10	at Baltimore	1:00
November 17	CLEVELAND	1:00
November 24	at Pittsburgh	1:00
December 1	BALTIMORE	1:00
December 8	at Carolina	1:00
December 15	JACKSONVILLE	1:00
December 22	NEW ORLEANS	1:00
December 29	at Buffalo	1:00

All times Eastern

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Covington, Scott	QB	6-2	217	01/17/1976	1 Miami (FL)
3	Kitna, Jon	QB	6-2	217	09/21/1972	5 Central Washington
11	Smith, Akili	QB	6-3	220	08/21/1975	3 Oregon
16	Thompson, Kevin	QB	6-5	236	07/27/1977	1 Penn State

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
71	Anderson, Willie	T	6-5	340	07/11/1975	6 Auburn
74	Braham, Rich	C	6-4	309	11/06/1970	7 West Virginia
63	Goff, Mike	G	6-5	311	01/06/1976	4 Iowa
62	Gutierrez, Brock	C	6-3	304	09/25/1973	5 Central Michigan
65	Jackson, John	T	6-6	300	01/04/1965	14 Eastern Kentucky
77	Leyva, Victor	G	6-4	315	12/18/1977	0 Arizona State
78	Moore, Freddie	T	6-6	304	08/27/1977	0 Florida A&M
72	O'Dwyer, Matt	G	6-5	313	09/01/1972	7 Northwestern
79	Rehberg, Scott	G	6-8	315	11/17/1973	5 Central Michigan
75	Stephens, Jamain	T	6-6	340	01/09/1974	6 North Carolina A&T
73	Webb, Richmond	T	6-6	320	01/11/1967	12 Texas A&M

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
36	Bennett, Brandon	RB	5-11	220	02/03/1973	3 South Carolina
28	Dillon, Corey	RB	6-1	225	10/24/1974	5 Washington
32	Johnson, Rudi	RB	5-10	233	10/01/1979	1 Auburn
29	Keaton, Curtis	RB	5-10	219	10/18/1976	2 James Madison
41	Neal, Lorenzo	RB	5-11	240	12/27/1970	9 Fresno State
30	Williams, Nick	RB	6-2	267	03/30/1977	3 Miami (FL)

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
88	Brewer, Sean	TE	6-4	255	10/05/1977	0 San Jose State
81	Dugans, Ron	WR	6-2	205	04/27/1977	2 Florida State
83	Farmer, Danny	WR	6-3	215	05/21/1977	2 UCLA
84	Houshmandzadeh, T.J.	WR	6-1	197	09/26/1977	1 Oregon State
85	Johnson, Chad	WR	6-2	192	01/09/1978	1 Oregon State
43	McMullen, Kirk	TE	6-4	255	07/19/1977	1 Pittsburgh
87	Plummer, Chad	WR	6-3	218	11/30/1975	1 Cincinnati
86	Scott, Darnay	WR	6-1	204	07/07/1972	7 San Diego State
48	St. Louis, Brad	TE	6-3	247	08/19/1976	2 Southwest Missouri State
80	Warrick, Peter	WR	5-11	195	06/19/1977	2 Florida State

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
96	Booker, Vaughn	DE	6-5	300	02/24/1968	8 Cincinnati
91	Chevrier, Randy	DT	6-2	281	06/06/1976	1 McGill College
92	Copeland, John	DT	6-3	287	09/20/1970	8 Alabama
99	Gibson, Oliver	DT	6-2	315	03/15/1972	7 Notre Dame
76	Henry, Kevin	DE	6-4	285	10/23/1968	8 Mississippi State
98	Langford, Jevon	DE	6-3	290	02/16/1974	6 Oklahoma State
53	Monds, Mario	DT	6-2	342	11/10/1976	1 Cincinnati
90	Smith, Justin	DE	6-4	267	09/30/1979	1 Missouri
70	Steele, Glen	DT	6-4	300	10/04/1974	4 Michigan
97	Whittington, Bernard	DE	6-5	280	08/20/1971	8 Indiana
94	Williams, Tony	DT	6-1	292	07/09/1975	5 Memphis
55	Wilson, Reinard	DE	6-2	272	12/17/1973	5 Florida State

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
33	Armour, Jo Juan	S	5-11	220	07/10/1976	3 Miami (OH)
23	Bean, Robert	CB	5-11	178	01/06/1978	2 Mississippi State
26	Hall, Cory	S	6-0	213	12/05/1976	3 Fresno State
27	Hawkins, Artrell	CB	5-10	190	11/24/1975	4 Cincinnati
22	Heath, Rodney	CB	5-10	177	10/29/1974	3 Minnesota
	Jennings, Ligarius	CB	5-10	195	11/03/1977	1 Tennessee State
34	Kaesviharn, Kevin	CB	6-1	180	08/29/1976	1 Augustana (SD)
20	Roman, Mark	CB	5-11	184	03/26/1977	2 LSU
31	Williams, Darryl	S	6-0	205	01/08/1970	10 Miami (FL)

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
98	Curtis, Canute	LB	6-2	257	08/04/1974	5 West Virginia
53	Edmonds, Chris	LB	6-3	250	01/01/1978	0 West Virginia
95	Foley, Steve	LB	6-3	260	09/09/1975	4 Northeast Louisiana
50	Johnson, Riall	LB	6-3	243	04/20/1978	1 Stanford
57	Ross, Adrian	LB	6-2	256	02/19/1975	4 Colorado State
56	Simmons, Brian	LB	6-3	248	06/21/1975	4 North Carolina
59	Spearman, Armegis	LB	6-1	254	04/05/1978	1 Mississippi
51	Spikes, Takeo	LB	6-2	245	12/17/1976	4 Auburn

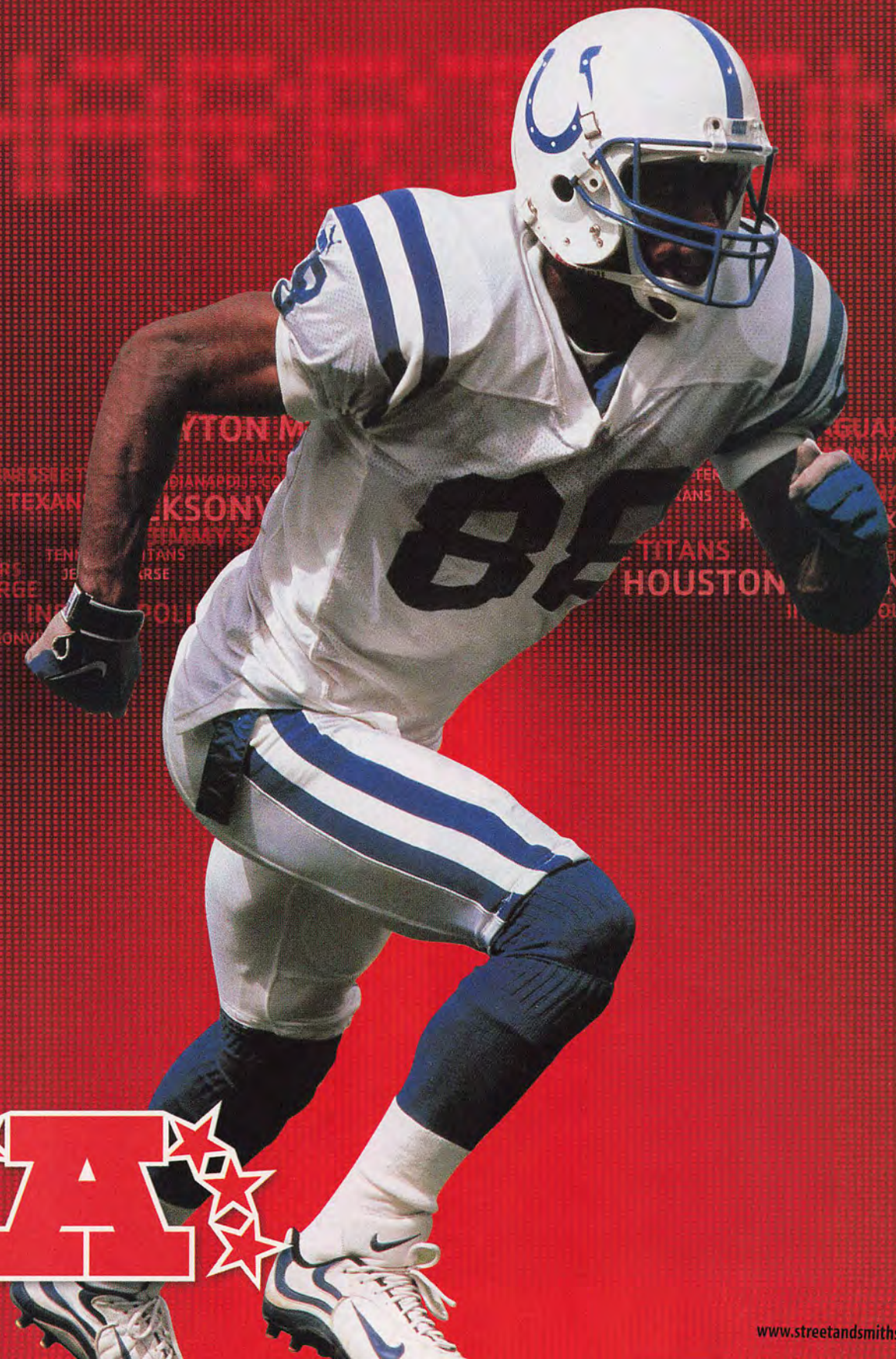
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
8	Harris, Nick	P	6-2	220	07/23/1978	1 California
5	Rackers, Neil	K	6-0	205	08/16/1976	2 Illinois

## 2002 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	10	Jones, Levi	T	6-5	304	08/24/1979	Arizona State
2	9	Thompson, Lamont	S	6-1	220	07/30/1978	Washington State
3	2	Schobel, Matt	TE	6-4	263	11/04/1978	Texas Christian
4	11	Dorsch, Travis	K	6-6	221	09/04/1979	Purdue
6	9	Manuel, Marquand	S	6-0	209	07/11/1979	Florida
7	8	Evans, Joey	DE	6-4	264	08/22/1979	North Carolina



# AFC SOUTH





# The Titans have the edge in a salary-capped division that's getting more defensive.

**B**ased on last season's records, the new AFC South should be the worst division in the league. Tennessee, Indianapolis and Jacksonville finished with losing records.

The fourth member, the expansion Houston Texans, is playing in its first season.

The salary cap has taken a huge bite out of the Titans, Colts and Jaguars. In 1999 and 2000, those three teams combined for a 71-25 record and five playoff appearances. Last season, they were 19-29. All have undergone radical changes because of the cap.

One thing to keep in mind about the AFC South: Because Jeff Fisher (Titans), Tony Dungy (Colts) and Dom Capers (Texans) are former defensive coordinators, this division could have the fastest games because all like to run the ball to control the clock to keep the defense off the field.

## Tennessee Titans

Coach Jeff Fisher was forced to change his style of play on both sides of the ball because of injuries to running back Eddie George and in the secondary. Fisher was forced to throw the ball more than he wanted, and he had to play so much zone coverage he became nauseous.

George is supposed to be healthy and, if he is, the Titans will return to the style that allows Fisher to sleep well. They'll run the ball, control the clock, throw safe passes to avoid interceptions, stack eight defensive players in the box to stop the run and blitz from every angle to try to force big plays.

## Indianapolis Colts

After making the playoffs for four of the last five years, Tony Dungy was fired by Tampa Bay and hired by Indianapolis. Dungy, a defensive fanatic who takes enormous pride in shutting

down opposing offenses and not committing turnovers, has taken over a team that couldn't stop his grandmother and surrendered the ball 38 times. Only two teams committed more turnovers.

No one has to tell Dungy that the best way for the Colts to rebound is to become more protective of the ball—especially in their end of the field—and to become more proficient at stopping opponents and forcing turnovers.

## Jacksonville Jaguars

The Jaguars' free-fall from powerhouse to out-house was caused primarily because of mismanagement of the salary cap. But they can be forgiven because they had become one of the NFL's better teams in previous years, and coach Tom Coughlin made the correct decision to sign his best players to long-term deals, then restructure them as times became desperate because Jacksonville was, indeed, a genuine Super Bowl contender.

But not anymore. Coughlin and owner Wayne Weaver don't want to hear it, but the situation's going to get worse before it has a chance to get better. The key is will Coughlin still be around to experience it?

## Houston Texans

At this time last year, when they had a full season to prepare for their inaugural season, the Texans indicated privately that they would be fortunate to win more than two games in their first season, or the same number as the expansion Browns won in 1999.

But after an offseason that yielded one veteran surprise after another in the expansion draft, a prosperous free-agent period and 13 picks in the regular draft, the Texans are privately saying they have the potential to win five or six games.



Previews by John McClain

## TOP PLAYERS

### OFFENSE:

**Peyton Manning, QB**  
Indianapolis Colts

### DEFENSE:

**Jevon Kearse, DE**  
Tennessee Titans

### NEWCOMER:

**John Henderson, DT**  
Jacksonville Jaguars





AFC SOUTH

# Tennessee Titans

## With Fisher emphasizing ball control, Titans will get back to their winning ways.

**W**hat a difference a year makes. The Titans finished 13-3 and ranked No. 1 in defense in 2000, and plummeted to 7-9 and a 25th defensive ranking, including 31st against the pass, last season. They stumbled out of the gate with an 0-3 start and struggled to the finish line with an 0-2 end. In between, they were 7-4.

For the first time in three years, the Titans lost their magic at Nashville's Adelphia Coliseum. They finished an embarrassing 3-5 at home, where only Baltimore won the previous two seasons.

The problems began before training camp. Eddie George never recovered from foot surgery and, as he got nicked while the season was progressing, he failed to run with confidence and authority as he had during his first five seasons. George finished with a career-low 939 yards rushing, including a three-yard average. It was the first time he failed to rush for at least 1,200 yards. The disastrous season wasn't all George's fault, of course. The offensive line slipped dramatically.

With the kind of running game that coach Jeff Fisher loves to use to control the clock, their time of possession dropped to 31:29 from 33:48. What that meant was that the defense had to spend more time on the field than the previous season when it was first overall and second against the run.

Fisher's defense experienced more change than any time during his first seven seasons. He lost defensive coordinator Gregg Williams and secondary coach Jerry Gray to Buffalo, where Williams became head coach and Gray defensive coordinator. Jim Schwartz was in his first season as the defensive coordinator and Everett Withers his first as secondary coach. And it showed.

Because of changes on the staff, salary-cap hits and, most important of all, decimating injuries in

*Wide receiver Derrick Mason was fifth among AFC non-kickers in points last season with 62, scoring a career-high 10 touchdowns.*



Steve McNair had his best NFL season in 2001, throwing for a career-high 3,350 yards and a personal-best 90.2 passer rating that ranked second in the AFC.

the secondary, the Titans allowed 388 points last season, or 197 more than 2000.

### OFFENSE

The good news going into this season is that George is supposed to be healthy after an offseason of rest and rehab. The coaches are predicting he will be running the way he used to. And they acquired a legitimate fullback as a lead blocker for the first time in two years when they signed free agent Greg Comella.

The line may be better, even though the Titans will play without Bruce Matthews for the first time in 19 years. He retired after earning a 14th consecutive spot in the Pro Bowl.

Quarterback Steve McNair had the best season of his seven-year career. Even though he was coming off shoulder surgery, McNair threw a career-high 21 touchdowns and compiled a career-best 90.2 passer rating. He took another beating, though. He was sacked 37 times and hit many more times when he was rushing for 414 yards and scoring five touchdowns.

Receivers Derrick Mason (73 catches for 1,128 yards and nine touchdowns) and Kevin Dyson (54 for 825 and seven) set or tied career highs for

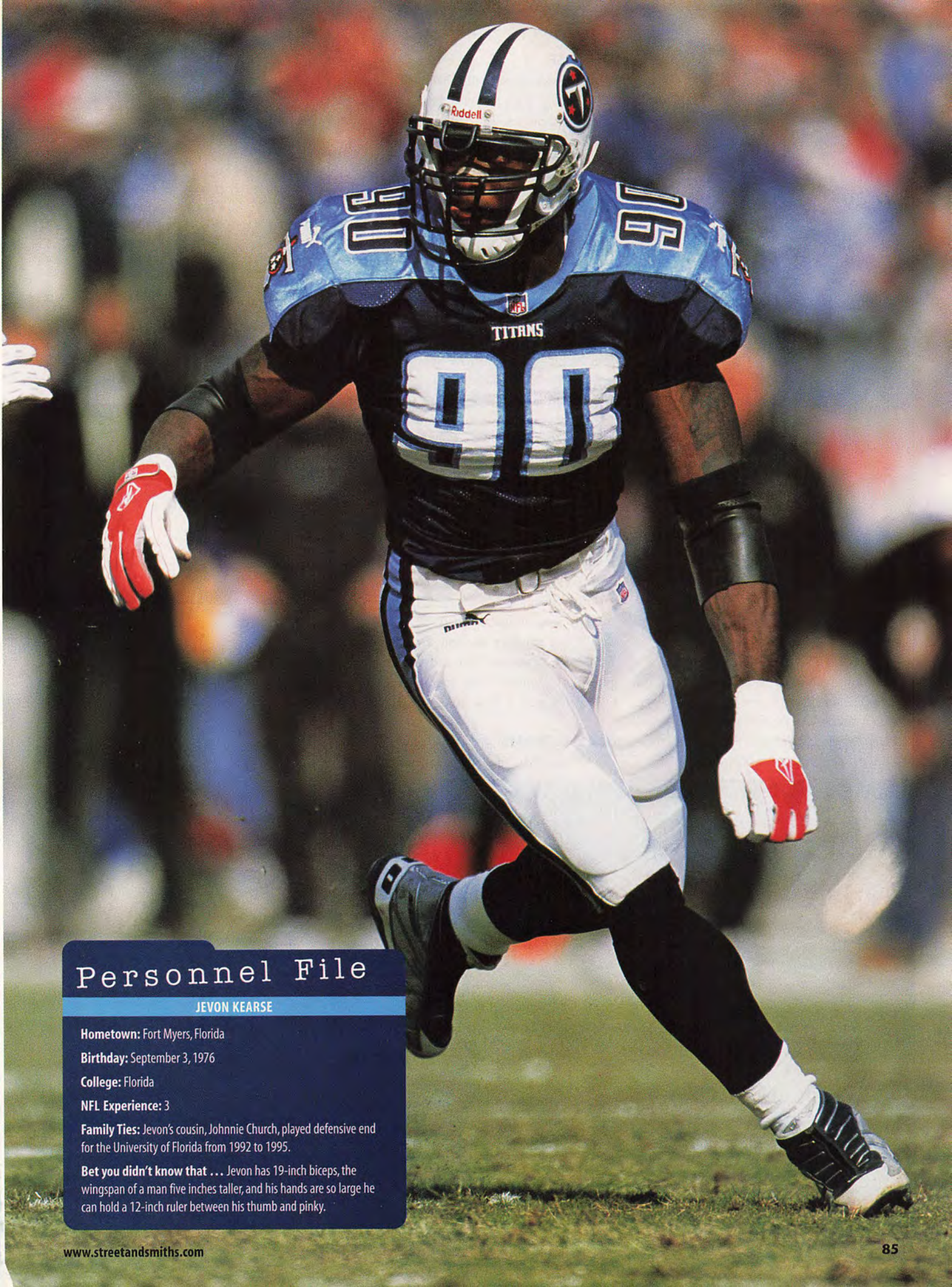
## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	334.5	8	TOTAL DEFENSE	344.7	25
RUSHING	112.1	12	AGAINST RUSH	89.4	5
PASSING	222.4	81	AGAINST PASS	255.3	31
SCORING	336	12	PTS. ALLOWED	388	25
PUNT RETURNS	7.8	26	INTERCEPTIONS	13	28
KICK RETURNS	19.9	26	SACKS	32	26
RED ZONE TD %	52.6	9	TURNOVER DIFF.	-4	20



LEFT TO RIGHT: SPORTS CHROME U.S.A., TOMASSO DEROSA; FACING PAGE: SPORTS CHROME U.S.A.





## Personnel File

### JEVON KEARSE

**Hometown:** Fort Myers, Florida

**Birthday:** September 3, 1976

**College:** Florida

**NFL Experience:** 3

**Family Ties:** Jevon's cousin, Johnnie Church, played defensive end for the University of Florida from 1992 to 1995.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Jevon has 19-inch biceps, the wingspan of a man five inches taller, and his hands are so large he can hold a 12-inch ruler between his thumb and pinky.





Eddie George, who led the Titans in rushing for the sixth consecutive season in 2001, has started 96 straight games, a figure that ranks first among all active NFL running backs.

receptions, yards and touchdowns. They also averaged more than 15 yards per catch.

Last season was the first in which tight end Frank Wycheck didn't lead the team in catches since the Titans moved to Nashville.

## DEFENSE

With Fisher as coach, the Titans will return to their conservative ways on offense. He's determined to avoid another defensive performance like last season, when they allowed at least 31 points five times and surrendered 17 rushing touchdowns.

Trouble began in the opening loss to Miami when free safety Bobby Myers and nickel corner Dainon Sidney suffered season-ending knee injuries. Strong safety Blaine Bishop appeared in only four games because of injuries.

Based on the starting defense that ended last season, there will be six different starters on defense. Tackles Jason Fisk (free agency) and Josh Evans (suspension) have been replaced by veteran John Thornton and No. 1 pick Albert Haynesworth. Outside linebackers Greg Favors (free agency) and Eddie Robinson (free agency) have new zip codes.

Veteran linebacker Keith Bulluck, a former No. 1 pick, steps into the lineup for the first time, and the coaches predict he'll make more big plays than Favors and Robinson combined. Cornerbacks Samari Rolle and Andre Dyson return. Rolle continues to be one of the best cover corners in the league. Dyson was the top pick last season, but was hampered by injuries.

New starters in the secondary are veteran free safety Lance Schulters, who went to the Pro Bowl for the 49ers two years ago, and second-round pick Tank Williams, who has Bishop's (free agency) big shoes to fill at strong safety.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

The kicking and punting game rests on solid

## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 7, Lost 9

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	L 23-31	Miami
09/23	L 6-13	at Jacksonville
10/07	L 6-26	at Baltimore
10/14	W 31-28	Tampa Bay
10/21	W 27-24	at Detroit
10/29	L 6-34	at Pittsburgh
11/04	W 28-24	Jacksonville
11/12	L 10-16	Baltimore
11/18	W 20-7	at Cincinnati
11/25	L 24-34	Pittsburgh
12/02	W 31-15	at Cleveland
12/09	L 24-42	at Minnesota
12/16	W 26-20	Green Bay
12/22	W 13-10	at Oakland
12/30	L 38-41	Cleveland
01/06	L 21-23	Cincinnati

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
George	315	939	3.0	27	5
McNair	75	414	5.5	24	5
Hicks	56	341	6.1	51	1
Green	15	71	4.7	21	1
O'Donnell	6	28	4.7	15	0
Wycheck	1	1	1.0	1	0

Team	468	1794	3.8	51	12
Opponents	405	1431	3.5	48t	17

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Mason	73	1128	15.5	71	9
Wycheck	60	672	11.2	30	4
K. Dyson	54	825	15.3	68	7
George	37	279	7.5	25	0
Kinney	25	263	10.5	24	1
Bennett	24	329	13.7	50	1
Green	12	64	5.3	10	1
Sanders	5	74	14.8	22	0
Hicks	5	22	4.4	9	0
McCareins	3	88	29.3	36	0
Meier	3	31	10.3	18	0
Natkin	2	42	21.0	27	0
Berlin	2	28	14.0	19	0
Coleman	1	19	19.0	19	0
Ours	1	3	3.0	3	0

Team	307	3867	12.6	71t	23
Opponents	328	4259	13.0	78	27

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
McNair	431	264	3350	21	12
O'Donnell	76	42	496	2	2
Wycheck	1	1	21	0	0
Green	2	0	0	0	2
Hentrich	2	0	0	0	1
Volek	3	0	0	0	0

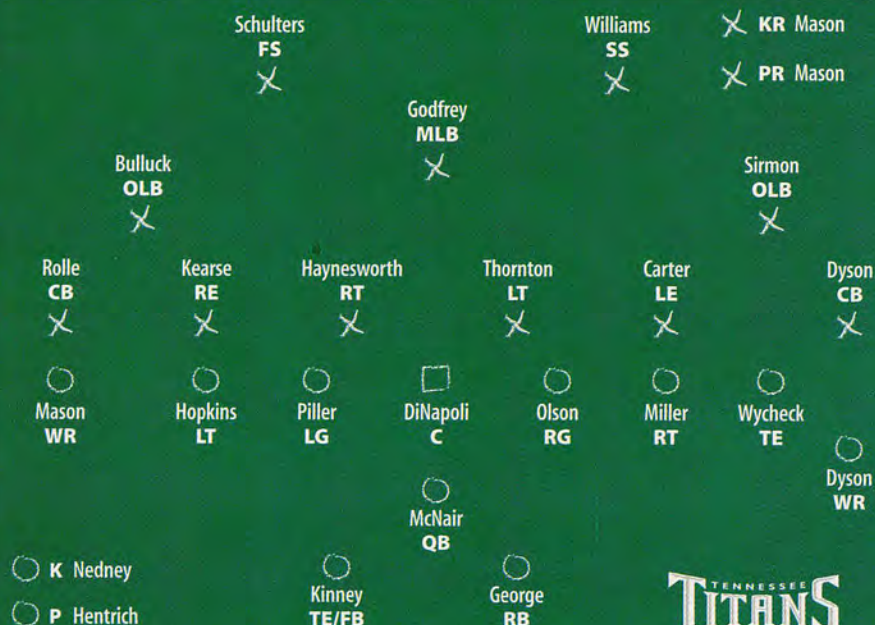
Team	515	307	3867	23	17
Opponents	559	328	4259	27	13

## SACKS

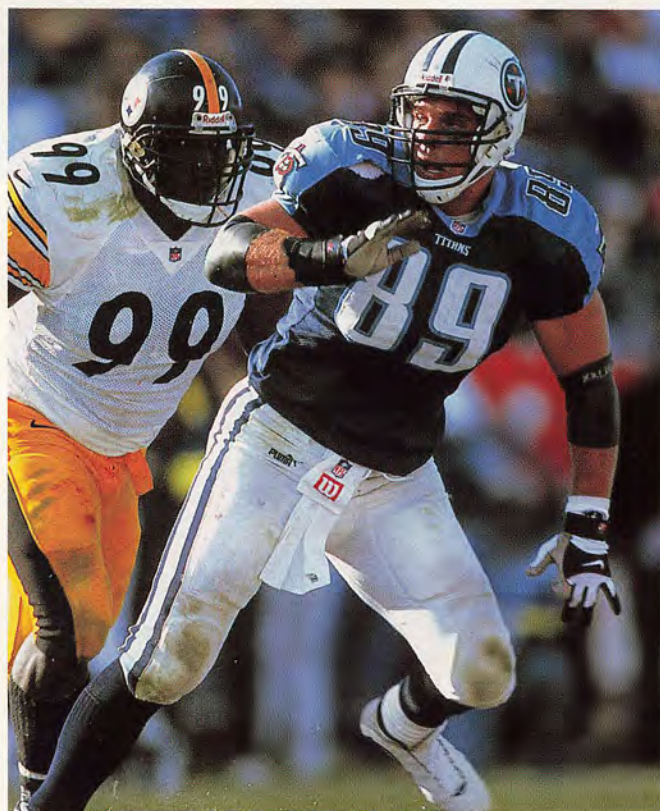
Kearse 10.0, Evans 5.5, Fisk 2.5, Carter 2.0, Rolle 2.0, Smith 2.0, Favors 1.5, Morris 1.5, Bulluck 1.0, Chamberlin 1.0, Ford 1.0, Godfrey 1.0, Robinson 1.0

Titans 32.0, Opponents 43.0

## PROJECTED STARTERS







Frank Wycheck has at least 60 receptions in each of the last five seasons, placing him with Shannon Sharpe and Ben Coates as the only tight ends in NFL history to accomplish the feat.

feet. Punter Craig Hentrich doesn't get the distance or accuracy he used to, but he can still be above average. Kicker Joe Nedney was only 20-for-28 on field goals, but all eight misses were from 44 yards or more. He kicked six field goals of at least 45 yards.

The Titans return teams were awful last season, but it wasn't Mason's fault. In 2000, he went to the Pro Bowl as a return man. As a team, Tennessee averaged only 7.8 yards on punt returns and 19.9 on kickoff returns, and both statistics must improve because they're so vital to field position.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	PHILADELPHIA.....	1:00
September 15	at Dallas.....	1:00
September 22	CLEVELAND.....	1:00
September 29	at Oakland.....	4:15
October 6	WASHINGTON.....	1:00
October 13	JACKSONVILLE.....	1:00
October 20	OPEN DATE.....	
October 27	at Cincinnati.....	1:00
November 3	at Indianapolis.....	1:00
November 10	HOUSTON.....	1:00
November 17	PITTSBURGH.....	1:00
November 24	at Baltimore.....	1:00
December 1	at NY Giants.....	1:00
December 8	INDIANAPOLIS.....	1:00
December 16	NEW ENGLAND.....	9:00
December 22	at Jacksonville.....	1:00
December 29	at Houston.....	1:00

All times Eastern

## TENNESSEE TITANS

Jeff Fisher, head coach

Craig Johnson, offensive assistant/quality control; Mike Heimerdinger, offensive coordinator; George Henshaw, assistant head coach/offense; Alan Lowry, special teams; Mike Munchak, offensive line; Jim Schwartz, defensive coordinator; Sherman Smith, running backs; Steve Walters, wide receivers; Jim Washburn, defensive line; Steve Watterson, strength and conditioning; Bart Andrus, offensive assistant/quality control; O'Neill Gilbert, linebackers

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
9	McNair, Steve	QB	6-2	225	02/14/1973	7	Alcorn State
14	O'Donnell, Neil	QB	6-3	228	07/03/1966	11	Maryland
12	Volek, Billy	QB	6-2	214	04/28/1976	1	Fresno State
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
66	DiNapoli, Gennaro	G	6-3	295	05/25/1975	2	Virginia Tech
	Haayer, Adam	T	6-6	298	02/22/1977	0	Minnesota
61	Hall, Barry	T	6-6	311	11/23/1977	0	Middle Tennessee State
72	Hopkins, Brad	T	6-3	305	09/05/1970	9	Illinois
60	Long, Kevin	C	6-5	295	05/02/1975	4	Florida State
76	Mathews, Jason	T	6-5	300	02/09/1971	8	Texas A&M
74	Mathews, Bruce	C	6-5	305	08/08/1961	19	Southern Californi
71	Miller, Fred	T	6-7	315	02/06/1973	6	Baylor
75	Olson, Benji	G	6-3	315	06/05/1975	4	Washington
69	Piller, Zach	G	6-5	315	05/02/1976	3	Florida
75	Rafferty, Ian	T	6-5	300	09/02/1976	1	North Carolina State
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
36	Alexander, Dan	RB	6-0	252	03/17/1978	1	Nebraska
34	Comella, Greg	RB	6-1	248	07/29/1975	4	Stanford
27	George, Eddie	RB	6-3	240	09/24/1973	6	Ohio State
20	Green, Mike	RB	6-0	249	09/02/1976	2	Houston
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
19	Bennett, Drew	WR	6-5	203	08/26/1978	1	UCLA
82	Berlin, Eddie	WR	5-11	194	01/14/1978	1	Northern Iowa
80	Coleman, Chris	WR	6-0	205	05/08/1977	2	North Carolina State
87	Dyson, Kevin	WR	6-1	199	06/23/1975	4	Utah
88	Kinney, Erron	TE	6-5	280	07/28/1977	2	Florida
85	Mason, Derrick	WR	5-10	188	01/17/1974	5	Michigan State
86	McCareins, Justin	WR	6-2	205	12/11/1978	1	Northern Illinois
84	Meier, Shad	TE	6-4	253	06/07/1978	1	Kansas State
85	Thomas, Mark	TE	6-4	252	04/26/1976	1	North Carolina State
89	Wycheck, Frank	TE	6-3	250	10/14/1971	9	Maryland
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
93	Carter, Kevin	DE	6-5	280	09/21/1973	7	Florida
92	Ford, Henry	DT	6-3	295	10/30/1971	8	Arkansas
90	Kearse, Jevon	DE	6-4	265	09/03/1976	3	Florida
99	Kocurek, Kris	DT	6-4	280	11/15/1978	1	Texas Tech
98	Smith, Robaire	DE	6-4	280	11/15/1977	2	Michigan State
94	Thomas, Juqua	DE	6-2	252	05/15/1978	1	Oklahoma State
78	Thornton, John	DT	6-2	300	10/02/1976	3	West Virginia
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
22	Dyson, Andre	CB	5-10	187	05/25/1979	1	Utah
41	George, Tony	S	5-11	206	08/10/1975	2	Florida
30	Mitchell, Donald	CB	5-9	185	12/14/1976	2	Southern Methodist
28	Morris, Aric	S	5-10	212	07/22/1977	2	Michigan State
32	Myers, Bobby	S	6-1	191	11/10/1976	2	Wisconsin
21	Rolle, Samari	CB	6-0	175	08/10/1976	4	Florida State
30	Schulters, Lance	S	6-2	207	05/27/1975	4	Hofstra
37	Sidney, Dainon	CB	6-0	188	05/30/1975	4	UAB
29	Walker, Joe	S	5-10	204	03/19/1977	1	Nebraska
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
53	Bulluck, Keith	LB	6-3	232	04/04/1977	2	Syracuse
57	Chamberlin, Frank	LB	6-1	246	01/02/1978	2	Boston College
56	Godfrey, Randall	LB	6-2	245	04/06/1973	6	Georgia
59	Sirmon, Peter	LB	6-2	246	02/18/1977	2	Oregon
58	Thweatt, Byron	LB	6-2	233	03/21/1977	1	Virginia
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
15	Hentrich, Craig	P	6-3	198	05/18/1971	8	Notre Dame
6	Nednev, Joe	K	6-5	220	03/22/1973	6	San Jose State

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	15	Haynesworth, Albert	DT	6-5	320	06/17/1981	Tennessee
2	13	Williams, Tank	S	6-2	223	06/30/1980	Stanford
3	12	Calmus, Rocky	LB	6-3	243	08/01/1979	Oklahoma
4	12	Echols, Mike	CB	5-9	190	10/13/1979	Wisconsin
4	17	Beckham, Tony	CB	6-1	195	10/01/1978	Wisconsin-Stout
4	35	Boiman, Rocky	LB	6-4	242	01/24/1980	Notre Dame
5	16	Schifino, Jake	WR	6-1	200	11/15/1979	Akron
6	15	Hartwig, Justin	G	6-4	300	11/21/1978	Kansas
7	14	Hill, Darrell	WR	6-2	197	06/19/1979	Northern Illinois
7	29	Hall, Carlos	DE	6-4	259	01/16/1979	Arkansas



# Indianapolis Colts

## Under Dungy, Indy offense will try to sustain its momentum while defense tries to get some.

**U**nder Jim Mora, the Colts' record had dropped from 13-3 to 10-6 to 6-10. They had a 2-0 start last season, but a 2-7 finish. Behind-the-scenes problems with General Manager Bill Polian contributed to Mora's departure. They were fortunate Tony Dungy was available.

When Dungy watched film of the Colts' nightmare season, he saw a Peyton Manning-led offense that finished second to the Rams in scoring, total offense and passing offense.

But Dungy winced when he saw 38 turnovers. Only the Rams (44) and Vikings (39) committed more. They were minus-13 in turnover differential, ranking 28th. But what hit Dungy like a two-by-four was a statistic that told as much about the team's character as it did about the talent: They lost seven of 10 games by 12 or more points.

During an era in which games are getting closer, the Colts suffered defeats by 31, 21, 14, 19, 12, 35 and 25 points.

Dungy's most pressing task during the offseason was weeding out players he didn't think could excel adopting his philosophy. His second-biggest responsibility was finding a happy medium between the high-risk, high-scoring offensive style coordinator Tom Moore uses and the ultra-conservative approach Dungy employed as coach of the Buccaneers.

At Tampa, in what would be the last of his six seasons, the Bucs were plus-17 in turnover ratio, second to the Jets' plus-18. That's a difference of 30 turnovers forced and committed to what the Colts turned in.

The Colts' offensive players and coaches raised an eyebrow when Dungy was hired. They knew his reputation: Run on first and second

down and dump off the ball on a short route on third. That's an oversimplification, of course, but Bucs fans would swear that's what Dungy did on every down.

What Manning and his offensive teammates have going for them is Moore, who coached Dungy at the University of Minnesota and coached with him with the Steelers. Dungy and Moore will agree on a philosophy, but Moore will run the offense. The idea is to reduce Manning's 23 interceptions and increase his 26 touchdown passes.

### OFFENSE

The Colts' strength is their offense, especially the running game. Edgerrin James, who led the league in rushing his first two seasons, suffered a season-ending knee injury early in the 2001 season. His replacement, Dominic Rhodes (1,104 yards), became the first undrafted rookie in NFL history to rush for at least 1,000 yards.

Because James is returning as strong as ever, the Colts are loaded at running back and are without a salary-cap problem at the position.

Because the Colts have a strong offensive line that excels at run blocking, the team averaged 4.5 yards a carry. Guard Steve McKinney, a four-year starter, signed with Houston as a free agent.

Other offensive players lost were receiver/kick returner Terrence Wilkins (trade), receiver Jerome Pathon (free agency) and tight end Ken Dilger (free agency). They combined for 90 catches last season, but, in truth, they might not be missed.

As long as Manning has the mercurial Marvin Harrison (109 catches for 1,524 yards and 15 TDs), the Colts should have one of the most



In his first season as a starter, Marcus Washington (top) added speed to the Colts' linebacking corps, making 119 tackles to finish second on the team. Meanwhile, since arriving from the Giants as a free agent in 1999, defensive end Chad Bratzke (92) has led the Colts in sacks all three seasons, totaling 28 during that time.

dangerous passing games in the league. They added Baltimore's best receiver, Qadry Ismail (74, 1,059, 7). If Ismail had that kind of season

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	372.2	2	TOTAL DEFENSE	357.2	29
RUSHING	122.9	7	AGAINST RUSH	132.2	25
PASSING	249.3	2	AGAINST PASS	225.0	27
SCORING	413	2	PTS. ALLOWED	486	31
PUNT RETURNS	10.0	14	INTERCEPTIONS	15	20
KICK RETURNS	21.8	14	SACKS	40	13
RED ZONE TD %	55.3	5T	TURNOVER DIFF.	-13	28





## Personnel File

### PEYTON WILLIAMS MANNING

**Hometown:** New Orleans

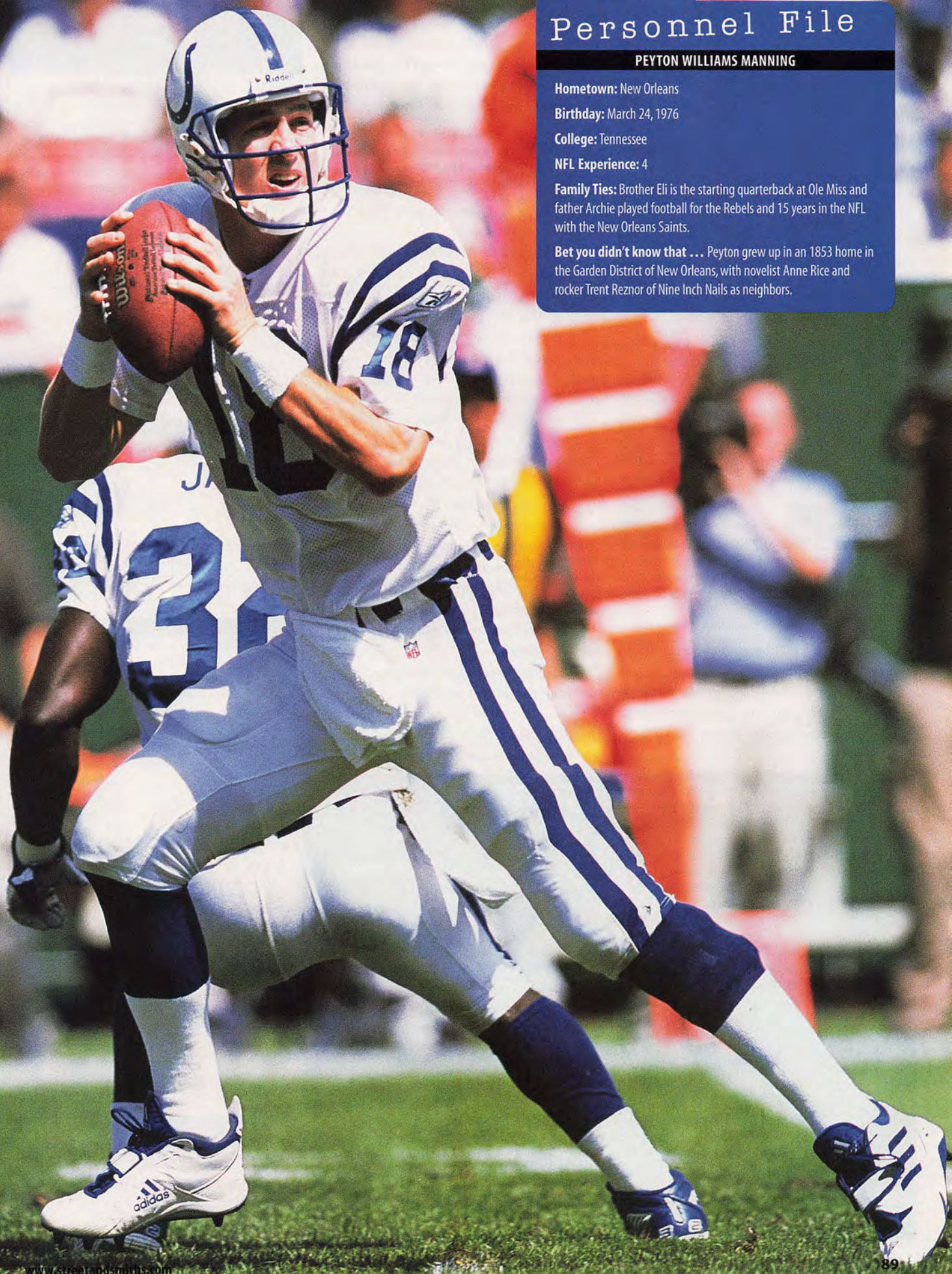
**Birthday:** March 24, 1976

**College:** Tennessee

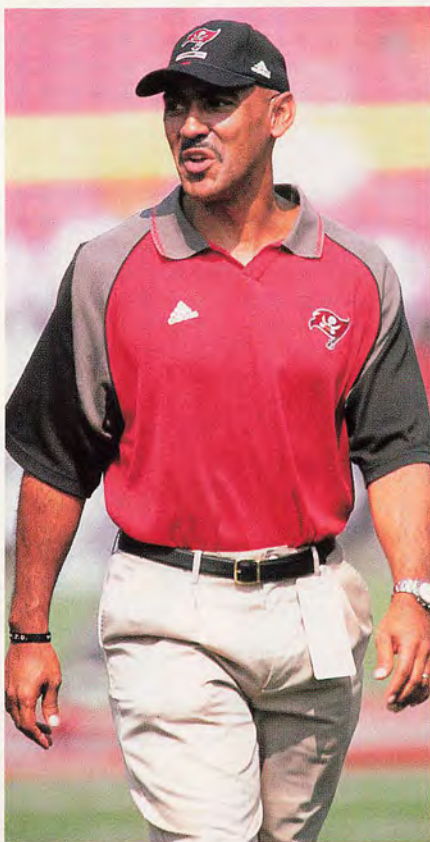
**NFL Experience:** 4

**Family Ties:** Brother Eli is the starting quarterback at Ole Miss and father Archie played football for the Rebels and 15 years in the NFL with the New Orleans Saints.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Peyton grew up in an 1853 home in the Garden District of New Orleans, with novelist Anne Rice and rocker Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails as neighbors.







The Colts' brass hopes Tony Dungy's defensive expertise will be the missing piece that gets Indy to the Super Bowl.

playing with Elvis Grbac, imagine what he can do with Manning.

Add last year's No. 1 pick, Reggie Wayne, as the third receiver, and the Colts' passing game should be extraordinary—minus the interceptions, of course.

Manning will miss the quiet professionalism of Dilger, who was usually in the right spot at the right time, but Marcus Pollard (47, 739, 8) is a better receiver. He's played tight end and H-back, but blocking isn't his specialty.

## DEFENSE

The Colts' defense will be in a state of transition during Dungy's first season. Cornerback Jeff Burris, safety Chad Cota and tackle Mike Wells are gone.

Outside linebacker Mike Peterson, one of their best players, returns from an injury. Cornerback Walt Harris and outside linebacker Greg Favors were signed as free agents.

In the first two rounds of the draft, Indy selected end Dwight Freeney, an edge rusher with sensational speed; tackle Larry Tripplett, who can stop the run and collapse the pocket; and cornerback Joseph Jefferson, who covers like wallpaper and is a superb punt returner.

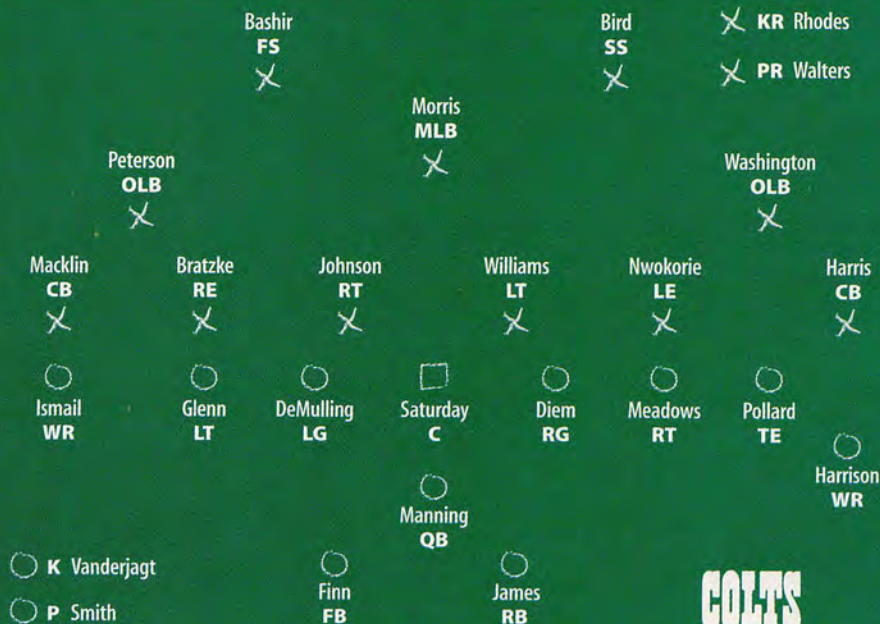
The best pass rushers Dungy has returning are end Chad Bratzke (8.5 sacks) and outside linebacker Marcus Washington (8), who ranked first and second in sacks, and defensive tackle Ellis Johnson, who plays the run well.

The Colts have to improve up the middle, especially middle linebacker Rob Morris. Opponents averaged 4.6 yards per carry.

Four factors can make a major difference for the Colts' defense:

- The offense must reduce turnovers and stop shortening the field for opponents.
- The offense must control the ball with the running game and short passing attack.
- Perhaps as many as six new starters on

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 6, Lost 10

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 45-24	at N.Y. Jets
09/23	W 42-26	Buffalo
09/30	L 13-44	at New England
10/14	L 18-23	Oakland
10/21	L 17-38	New England
10/25	W 35-28	at Kansas City
11/04	W 30-14	at Buffalo
11/11	L 24-27	Miami
11/18	L 20-34	at New Orleans
11/25	L 21-40	San Francisco
12/02	L 27-39	at Baltimore
12/10	L 6-41	at Miami
12/16	W 41-27	Atlanta
12/23	L 28-29	N.Y. Jets
12/30	L 17-42	at St. Louis
01/06	W 29-10	Denver

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Rhodes	233	1104	4.7	77	9
James	151	662	4.4	29	3
Manning	35	157	4.5	33	4
McDougal	17	48	2.8	12	0
Harrison	1	3	3.0	3	0
Team	438	1966	4.5	77t	16
Opponents	455	2115	4.6	56t	20

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Harrison	109	1524	14.0	68	15
Pollard	47	739	15.7	86	8
Wilkins	34	332	9.8	28	0
Rhodes	34	224	6.6	19	0
Dilger	32	343	10.7	44	1
Wayne	27	345	12.8	43	0
Pathon	24	330	13.8	60	2
James	24	193	8.0	27	0
Insley	14	165	11.8	26	1
Simmons	2	17	8.5	12	0
McDougal	1	10	10.0	10	0
McKinney	1	5	5.0	5	0
Team	349	4227	12.1	86t	27
Opponents	311	3857	12.4	91t	30

Team	349	4227	12.1	86t	27
Opponents	311	3857	12.4	91t	30

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Manning	547	343	4131	26	23
Rypien	9	5	57	0	0
Dilger	1	1	39	1	0

Team	557	349	4227	27	23
Opponents	509	311	3857	30	15

## SACKS

Bratzke 8.5, Washington 8.0, Nwokorie 5.0, Sciolli 4.0, Johnson 3.5, Williams 3.0, Peterson 1.5, Thomas 1.5, Morris 1.0, Peter 1.0, Phillips 1.0, Sword 1.0, Bird 0.5, Macklin 0.5

Colts 40.0, Opponents 30.0

COLTS





Much of the Colts' offensive hopes are pinned to the comeback of running back Edgerlin James from a knee injury that forced him to miss the last 10 games of last season.

defense must adapt to Dungy's style and carry out his plan.

- Punter Hunter Smith must back up opponents inside the 20.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Smith put only 12 punts inside the opponent's 20. Considering Manning seldom goes three-and-out and the Colts usually take the ball close to mid-field at worst, Smith must become more accurate.

The strength of the special teams is kicker Mike Vanderjagt, who was 28-of-34 on field goals and scored 125 points. Indy will have to find new return men to replace Wilkins (averages of 10.4 yards on punts and 22.9 on kickoffs).

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Jacksonville	1:00
September 15	MIAMI	1:00
September 22	at Houston	1:00
September 29	OPEN DATE	
October 6	CINCINNATI	1:00
October 13	BALTIMORE	1:00
October 21	at Pittsburgh	9:00
October 27	at Washington	8:30
November 3	TENNESSEE	1:00
November 10	at Philadelphia	1:00
November 17	DALLAS	1:00
November 24	at Denver	8:30
December 1	HOUSTON	4:05
December 8	at Tennessee	1:00
December 15	at Cleveland	1:00
December 22	NY GIANTS	1:00
December 29	JACKSONVILLE	4:05

All times Eastern

## INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

Tony Dungy, head coach

Jim Caldwell, quarterback; George Catavolos, assistant to head coach/secondary;  
 Todd Grantham, defensive line; Gene Huey, running backs; Tom Moore, offensive coordinator;  
 Howard Mudd, offensive line; Mike Murphy, linebackers; Clyde Christiansen, wide receivers;  
 Chris Foerster, tight ends; Ricky Thomas, offensive quality control; John Pagano, defensive assistant;  
 Russ Purnell, special teams; Jon Torine, strength and conditioning;  
 Richard Howell, assistant strength and conditioning

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
11	Huard, Brock	QB	6-4	220	04/15/1976	2	Washington
18	Manning, Peyton	QB	6-5	230	03/24/1976	4	Tennessee
16	Sauter, Cory	QB	6-4	215	11/21/1974	1	Minnesota
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
64	DeMulling, Rick	G	6-4	304	07/21/1977	1	Idaho State
71	Diem, Ryan	G	6-6	332	07/01/1979	1	Northern Illinois
69	Gilbert, Ben	G	6-4	316	06/06/1978	0	Ohio State
78	Glenn, Tarik	T	6-5	332	05/25/1976	5	California
74	Jackson, Waverly	G	6-2	315	12/19/1972	4	Virginia Tech
73	Meadows, Adam	T	6-5	295	01/25/1974	5	Georgia
72	Ridder, Tim	G	6-7	301	12/17/1976	0	Notre Dame
63	Saturday, Jeff	C	6-2	293	06/08/1975	3	North Carolina
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
36	Finn, Jim	RB	6-0	235	12/09/1976	2	Pennsylvania
32	James, Edgerrin	RB	6-0	214	08/01/1978	3	Miami (FL)
43	McDougal, Kevin	RB	5-11	204	05/18/1977	2	Colorado State
44	Ours, Wes	RB	6-0	284	12/30/1977	1	West Virginia
33	Rhodes, Dominic	RB	5-9	208	01/17/1979	1	Midwestern Texas State
30	Stith, Shyrone	RB	5-7	209	04/02/1978	1	Virginia Tech
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
49	Davenport, Joe Dean	TE	6-6	273	10/29/1976	1	Arkansas
84	Haddad, Drew	WR	5-11	185	08/15/1978	0	Buffalo
88	Harrison, Marvin	WR	6-0	178	08/25/1972	6	Syracuse
87	Ismail, Qadry	WR	6-0	200	11/08/1970	9	Syracuse
12	Kitchings, Desmond	WR	5-9	175	07/19/1978	0	Furman
81	Pollard, Marcus	TE	6-3	248	02/08/1972	7	Bradley
48	Snow, Justin	TE	6-3	234	12/21/1976	2	Baylor
82	Walters, Troy	WR	5-7	173	12/15/1976	2	Stanford
87	Wayne, Reggie	WR	6-0	197	11/17/1978	1	Miami (FL)
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
93	Barnes, Lionel	DE	6-5	274	04/19/1976	3	Northeast Louisiana
92	Bratzke, Chad	DE	6-5	272	09/15/1971	8	Eastern Kentucky
98	Cannida, James	DT	6-2	291	01/03/1975	4	Nevada
62	Johnson, Ellis	DT	6-2	288	10/30/1973	7	Florida
91	Nwokorie, Chukie	DE	6-3	280	07/10/1975	3	Purdue
67	Olsen, Hans	DT	6-4	294	07/31/1977	1	Brigham Young
99	Scioli, Brad	DE	6-3	274	09/06/1976	3	Penn State
96	Williams, Josh	DT	6-3	284	08/09/1976	2	Michigan
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
28	Bashir, Idrees	S	6-2	206	12/07/1978	1	Memphis
41	Bird, Cory	S	5-10	216	08/10/1978	1	Virginia Tech
26	Brooks, Rodregis	CB	5-9	184	08/30/1978	1	UAB
31	Crosby, Clifton	CB	5-10	172	09/17/1974	2	Maryland
34	Doering, Jason	S	6-0	205	04/22/1978	1	Wisconsin
47	Hampton, Jermaine	CB	6-0	205	06/12/1979	1	Northern Illinois
25	Harper, Nick	CB	5-10	184	09/10/1974	1	Fort Valley State
27	Harris, Walt	CB	5-11	190	08/10/1974	6	Mississippi State
27	Macklin, David	CB	5-9	193	07/14/1978	2	Penn State
42	Walls, Raymond	CB	5-10	176	07/24/1979	1	Southern Mississippi
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
51	Favors, Gregory	LB	6-1	244	09/30/1974	4	Mississippi State
94	Morris, Rob	LB	6-2	238	01/18/1975	2	Brigham Young
52	Peterson, Mike	LB	6-1	232	06/17/1976	3	Florida
98	Sword, Sam	LB	6-1	245	12/04/1974	3	Michigan
54	Thompson, Donnel	LB	5-11	234	02/17/1978	2	Wisconsin
53	Washington, Marcus	LB	6-3	255	10/17/1977	2	Auburn
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
17	Smith, Hunter	P	6-2	212	08/09/1977	3	Notre Dame
13	Vanderjagt, Mike	K	6-5	210	03/24/1970	4	West Virginia

## 2002 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	11	Freeney, Dwight	DE	6-0	268	02/19/1980	Syracuse
2	10	Tripplett, Larry	DT	6-1	300	01/18/1979	Washington
3	9	Jefferson, Joseph	CB	6-0	205	02/15/1980	Western Kentucky
4	8	Thornton, David	LB	6-2	236	11/11/1978	North Carolina
6	10	Pugh, David	DT	6-2	276	07/24/1979	Virginia Tech
6	11	Lewis, James	S	5-10	192	12/19/1978	Miami (FL)
6	32	Allen, Brian	RB	5-9	209	04/20/1980	Stanford
7	9	Mallard, Joshua	DE	6-2	261	03/21/1979	Georgia



## Salary-cap woes and free-agent departures are slowly making Jags' growl a whimper.

**T**he Jaguars started and ended 2001 well, beginning 2-0 and closing 3-2. They lost five games by five or fewer points. Ultimately, they were suffocated by the salary cap and injuries. Still, they were one of only two teams with losing records that scored more points than they surrendered. They finished tied for 21st in scoring with an average of 18.3 points.



Despite being hampered by a quadriceps injury all season that forced him to miss practices, quarterback Mark Brunell continued to produce in games, finishing tied for fourth among AFC quarterbacks with an 84.1 passer rating.

The Jaguars have experienced back-to-back losing seasons for the first time in franchise history. Coach Tom Coughlin hasn't drafted a Pro Bowl player in five years. And they continued to lose the war of attrition.

Gone are such key players as offensive tackle Tony Boselli, receiver Keenan McCardell, defensive tackles Gary Walker and Seth Payne, defensive end Renaldo Wynn, cornerback Aaron Beasley, outside linebacker Kevin Hardy and kicker Mike Hollis.

Before the April draft, they were shopping injury-prone running back Fred Taylor, who wants more money, even though he spends more time in the whirlpool than on the field.

### OFFENSE

Although he has many critics in the media, which he treats as the enemy, Coughlin is still an outstanding coach. What he needs more than anything is for the gifted Taylor to stay healthy for one season, which may be impossible based on his history, and for a retooled offensive line to do a better job of protecting quarterback Mark Brunell.

Perhaps because Brunell is getting older or because he's battered and bruised, or because of both, Coughlin drafted East Carolina quarterback David Garrard, who promptly put his foot in his mouth by telling everyone that he was going to put some heat on Brunell right away.

The only heat Garrard might put on Brunell will come from a heating pad. Last season, Brunell threw for 3,309 yards, 19 touchdowns and 13 interceptions, but he was sacked 57 times. And he lived to tell about it. No wonder the line is in upheaval.



One injury-free season from feature back Fred Taylor is on Jags coach Tom Coughlin's wish list this season.

Second-round pick Mike Pearson (left tackle) and right guard Chris Naeole (free agent from New Orleans) are new members of the line. Center Brad Meester, left tackle Zach Wiegert and right tackle Maurice Williams have started at different positions. They hope they've found the right combination and can remain intact for a season.

Brunell still has his favorite receiver, Jimmy Smith, who continues to be one of the NFL's best. Smith played hurt and caught 112 passes for 1,373 yards and eight touchdowns. Without Smith's counterpart, McCardell, who was supposed to be a salary-cap casualty, a big part of the offense will be missing.

Like Smith and Brunell, McCardell was an original Jaguar. At 32, he's coming off his best season (93 receptions for 1,110 yards and six touchdowns). Patrick Johnson, a free agent from Baltimore, better do a decent impersonation of McCardell or the passing game will be in trouble.

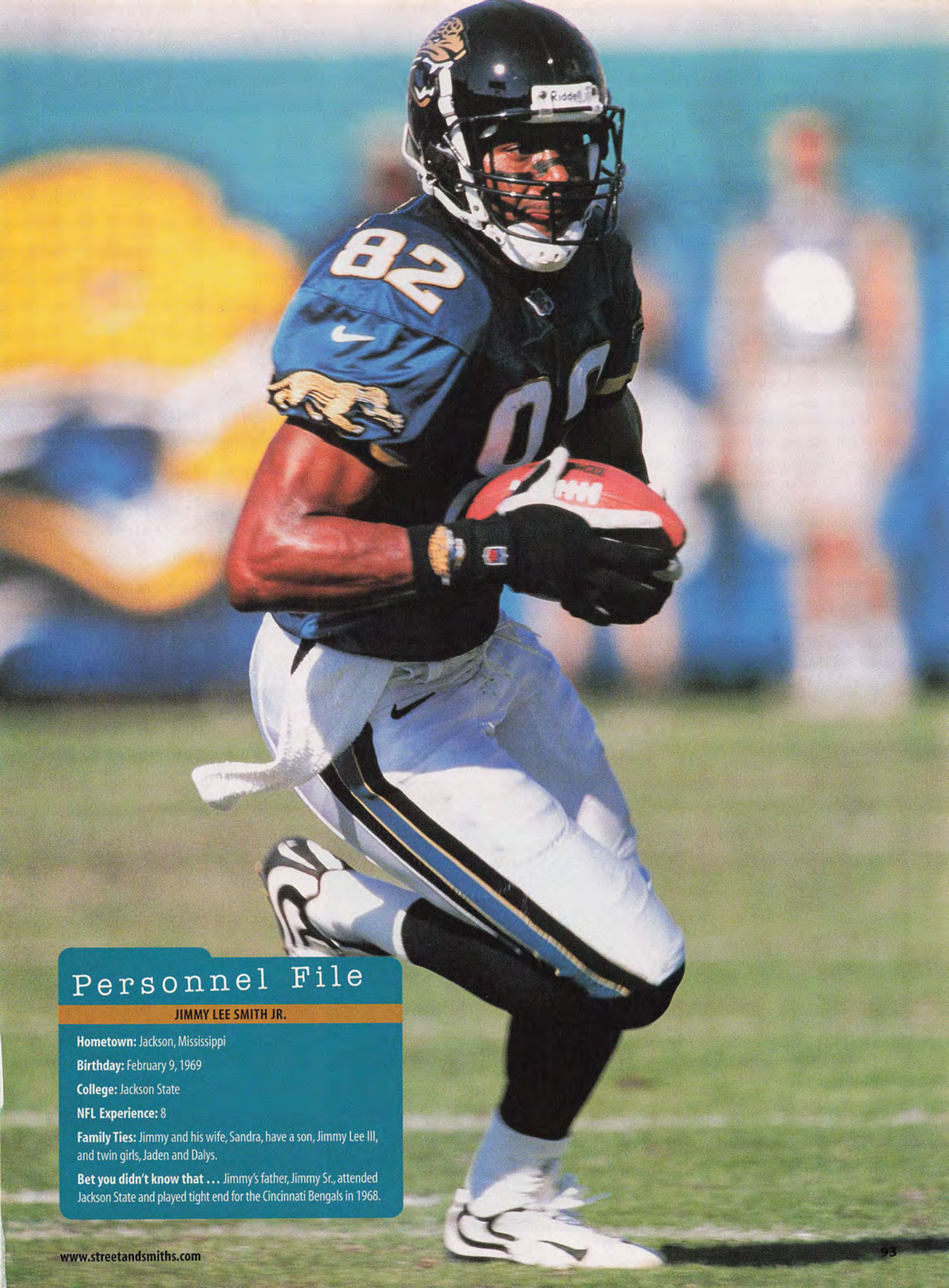
Tight end Kyle Brady, who had 36 catches, needs to contribute more to help offset the loss of McCardell, who blasted Coughlin and accused him of lying when he was informed he'd be waived after June 1 because of the cap.

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	302.5	20	TOTAL DEFENSE	316.9	16T
RUSHING	100.0	26	AGAINST RUSH	100.7	10
PASSING	202.5	18	AGAINST PASS	216.2	22
SCORING	294	21T	PTS. ALLOWED	286	10
PUNT RETURNS	8.8	22	INTERCEPTIONS	12	29
KICK RETURNS	20.1	24	SACKS	43	12
RED ZONE TD %	50.0	14	TURNOVER DIFF.	-3	18T







## Personnel File

**JIMMY LEE SMITH JR.**

**Hometown:** Jackson, Mississippi

**Birthday:** February 9, 1969

**College:** Jackson State

**NFL Experience:** 8

**Family Ties:** Jimmy and his wife, Sandra, have a son, Jimmy Lee III, and twin girls, Jaden and Dalys.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Jimmy's father, Jimmy Sr., attended Jackson State and played tight end for the Cincinnati Bengals in 1968.



## DEFENSE

Barring a miracle, there's no way the defense can be better considering the losses it suffered, especially up front. Walker, Hardy, Payne and Wynn combined for 23 of the Jaguars' 43 sacks.

Fortunately, end Tony Brackens is still around. He's their best pass rusher, and he led the team with 11 sacks. If Brackens could avoid nagging injuries and keep his motor turned up full-speed every game, he'd be capable of recording 15 to 18 sacks.

For the second year in a row, Coughlin used his No. 1 pick on a defensive tackle. John Henderson, taken ninth overall, could be even better than Marcus Stroud, who started as a rookie last season. Barring injury, the Jaguars will have tackles as good or better than any team over the next few years.

The Jaguars were good against the run, ranking 10th and allowing only 3.4 yards a carry. Contrast that statistic with an offense that was 26th in rushing but averaged an impressive 4.3 yards a carry.

The linemen must get pressure on the quarterback, even though a big part of the pass rush is missing. The front four needs help from a group of linebackers that is talented but relatively inexperienced. Wali Rainer came from Cleveland to compete with T.J. Slaughter in the middle. If Rainer was that good, the Browns wouldn't have signed Earl Holmes to replace him. It remains to be seen if he can beat out Slaughter. Danny Clark and Eric Westmoreland must be consistent on the outside, especially against the run.

One thing the Jaguars didn't do well was make interceptions. They had only 12 and lost Beasley,

who tied for the team lead with three. Only three teams intercepted fewer passes.

Cornerback Fernando Bryant and strong safety Donovan Darius could be difference-makers if they play the way they're capable. They can cover and hit and need to be consistent to help overcome the losses of so many key players among the front seven.



Last year, veteran tight end Kyle Brady's production fell off by almost half from the 2000 season, as his reception total dropped from 64 to 36.

## PROJECTED STARTERS

	McCree FS X		Darius SS X	X	KR Joseph		
				X	PR Gibson		
		Rainer MLB X					
Westmoreland OLB X					Clark OLB X		
Craft CB X	Brackens RE X	Henderson RT X	Stroud LT X	Spicer LE X	Bryant CB X		
J. Smith WR	Pearson LT	Wiegert LG	Meester C	Naeole RG	Williams RT	Brady TE	Johnson WR
		Brunell QB					
K Holmes/Epstein	D. Smith FB	Taylor RB					



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 6, Lost 10

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 21-3	Pittsburgh
09/23	W 13-6	Tennessee
09/30	L 14-23	Cleveland
10/07	L 15-24	at Seattle
10/18	L 10-13	Buffalo
10/28	L 17-18	at Baltimore
11/04	L 24-28	at Tennessee
11/11	W 30-13	Cincinnati
11/18	L 7-20	at Pittsburgh
11/25	L 21-24	Baltimore
12/03	L 21-28	Green Bay
12/09	W 14-10	at Cincinnati
12/16	W 15-10	at Cleveland
12/23	W 33-3	at Minnesota
12/30	L 26-30	Kansas City
01/06	L 13-33	at Chicago

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Mack	213	877	4.1	54	9
Joseph	68	294	4.3	27	0
Brunell	39	224	5.7	38	1
Taylor	30	116	3.9	24	0
Quinn	8	42	5.3	27	0
Moreau	8	27	3.4	14	1
Gibson	2	19	9.5	18	0
Whitted	1	4	4.0	4	0
Hanson	2	0	0	0	0

Team	438	1966	4.5	77t	16
Opponents	455	2115	4.6	56t	20

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Ji. Smith	112	1373	12.3	35	8
McCardell	93	1110	11.9	45	6
Brady	36	386	10.7	20	2
Mack	23	165	7.2	25	1
Dawkins	20	234	11.7	28	0
Joseph	18	183	10.2	29	2
Jones	8	140	17.5	40	1
Washington	5	36	7.2	12	0
Whitted	2	17	8.5	10	0
Gibson	2	13	6.5	9	0
Taylor	2	13	6.5	11	0

Team	349	4227	12.1	86t	27
Opponents	311	3857	12.4	91t	30

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Brunell	473	289	3309	19	13
Quinn	61	32	361	1	1
Team	557	349	4227	27	23
Opponents	509	311	3857	30	15

### SACKS

Brackens 11.0, Walker 7.5, Hardy 5.5, Payne 5.0, Wynn 5.0, Thomas 3.0, Spicer 2.0, Battles 1.0, McCree 1.0, Slaughter 1.0, Westmoreland 1.0

Jaguars 43.0, Opponents 63.0





Running back Stacey Mack filled in ably for the injured Fred Taylor last season, gaining 877 yards in 11 starts.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Punter Chris Hanson didn't scare opponents with his distance, but he was extremely accurate, leaving 24 boots inside the 20. The kicking game is in a state of flux after Hollis blasted Coughlin and was dumped.

Returns have to be improved to help field position. Damon Gibson averaged 8.8 yards (punts) and 19.7 (kickoffs). The coverage teams were effective, though. The Jaguars allowed 7.8 yards on punt returns and 19.5 on kickoff returns.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	INDIANAPOLIS.....	1:00
September 15	at Kansas City.....	1:00
September 22	OPEN DATE	
September 29	NY JETS.....	1:00
October 6	PHILADELPHIA.....	4:15
October 13	at Tennessee.....	1:00
October 20	at Baltimore.....	1:00
October 27	HOUSTON.....	4:15
November 3	at NY Giants.....	8:30
November 10	WASHINGTON.....	4:05
November 17	at Houston.....	4:15
November 24	at Dallas.....	1:00
December 1	PITTSBURGH.....	1:00
December 8	CLEVELAND.....	1:00
December 15	at Cincinnati.....	1:00
December 22	TENNESSEE.....	1:00
December 29	at Indianapolis.....	4:05

All times Eastern

## JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

Tom Coughlin, head coach

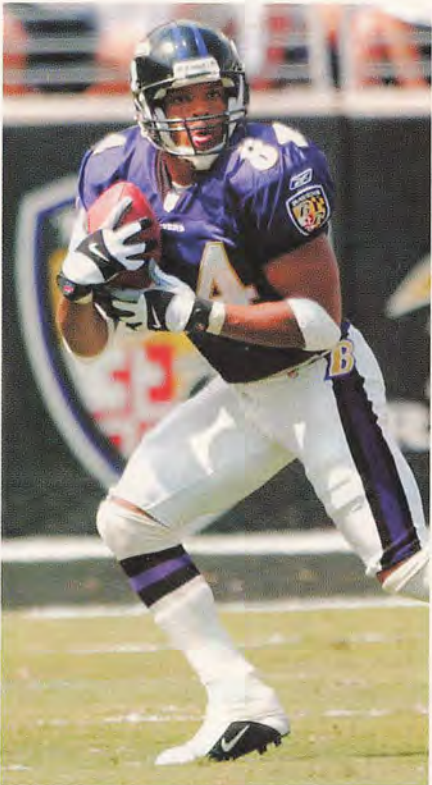
John Bonamego, assistant special teams; Mike Sullivan, defensive quality control; Pete Carmichael, wide receivers; Perry Fewell, secondary; Greg Finnegan, assistant strength and conditioning; Frank Gansz, special teams; Tony Sparano, tight ends; Jerald Ingram, running backs; Mike Maser, offensive line; Garrick McGee, offensive quality control; Jerry Palmieri, strength and conditioning; John Pease, assistant head coach; Bob Petrino, offensive coordinator; Lucious Selmon, inside linebackers; Steve Szabo, outside linebackers; John McNulty, wide receivers; John Hufnagel, quarterbacks

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
8	Brunell, Mark	QB	6-1	221	09/17/1970	8	Washington
10	Robinson, Roderick	QB	6-3	235	05/17/1976	0	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
69	Baniewicz, Mark	T	6-6	306	03/24/1977	0	Syracuse
66	Clayton, Carey	C	6-3	285	08/31/1977	1	UTEP
78	Fordham, Todd	T	6-5	308	10/09/1973	4	Florida State
64	Koch, Aaron	G	6-3	304	02/21/1978	2	Oregon State
63	Meester, Brad	G	6-3	308	03/23/1977	2	Northern Iowa
79	Miller, Jeff	T	6-3	305	11/23/1972	0	Mississippi
65	Naeole, Chris	G	6-3	313	12/25/1974	5	Colorado
73	Smith, Jeff	C	6-3	326	05/25/1973	6	Tennessee
70	Venzke, Patrick	T	6-6	308	04/06/1975	0	Idaho
66	Wade, John	C	6-5	302	01/25/1975	4	Marshall
77	Wiegert, Zach	G	6-5	312	08/16/1972	7	Nebraska
74	Williams, Maurice	T	6-5	304	01/26/1979	1	Michigan
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
35	Joseph, Elvis	RB	6-1	213	08/30/1978	1	Southern University
34	Mack, Stacey	RB	6-1	235	06/26/1975	3	Temple
42	Smith, Detron	RB	5-10	230	02/25/1974	6	Texas A&M
28	Taylor, Fred	RB	6-1	231	01/27/1976	4	Florida
31	Washington, Patrick	RB	6-2	236	03/04/1978	1	Virginia
22	White, Reggie	RB	6-0	228	07/11/1979	1	Oklahoma State
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
80	Brady, Kyle	TE	6-6	277	01/14/1972	7	Penn State
85	Gibson, Damon	WR	5-9	184	02/25/1975	3	Iowa
83	Johnson, Patrick	WR	5-10	180	08/10/1976	4	Oregon
87	McCardell, Keenan	WR	6-1	191	01/06/1970	10	UNLV
83	Mitchell, Pete	TE	6-2	248	10/09/1971	7	Boston College
87	Ofahengaue, Tevita	TE	6-2	254	07/09/1975	0	Brigham Young
89	Prince, Ryan	TE	6-4	250	05/16/1977	1	Weber State
86	Ross, Micah	WR	6-3	220	01/13/1976	1	Jacksonville
19	Shannon, Larry	WR	6-4	210	02/02/1975	1	East Carolina
82	Shaw, Bobby	WR	6-0	183	04/23/1975	3	California
89	Smith, Emanuel	WR	6-1	210	02/03/1976	1	Arkansas
82	Smith, Jimmy	WR	6-1	205	02/09/1969	8	Jackson State
81	Soward, R. Jay	WR	5-11	184	01/16/1978	1	Southern California
83	Zelenka, Joe	TE	6-3	280	03/09/1976	3	Wake Forest
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
90	Brackens, Tony	DE	6-4	265	12/26/1974	6	Texas
93	Colinet, Stalin	DT	6-6	288	07/17/1974	5	Boston College
77	Garner, Randy	DE	6-5	273	11/28/1977	0	Arkansas
92	Meier, Rob	DE	6-5	285	08/29/1977	2	Washington State
90	Morabito, Tim	DT	6-3	296	10/12/1973	5	Boston College
94	Smith, Larry	DT	6-5	284	12/04/1974	3	Florida State
95	Spicer, Paul	DE	6-4	271	08/18/1975	3	Saginaw Valley
99	Stroud, Marcus	DT	6-6	321	06/25/1978	1	Georgia
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
26	Battles, Ainsley	S	5-10	200	11/06/1977	2	Vanderbilt
30	Blackwell, Kory	CB	5-11	185	08/03/1972	1	Massachusetts
42	Boyd, James	S	5-11	208	10/17/1977	1	Penn State
25	Bryant, Fernando	CB	5-10	178	03/26/1977	3	Alabama
36	Cox, Renard	CB	5-11	188	03/03/1978	1	Maryland
29	Craft, Jason	CB	5-10	182	02/13/1976	3	Colorado State
20	Darius, Donovin	S	6-1	216	08/12/1975	4	Syracuse
32	McCree, Marlon	S	5-11	192	03/17/1977	1	Kentucky
45	Olson, Erik	S	6-1	212	01/04/1977	1	Colorado State
41	Thomas, Kiwaukee	CB	5-11	190	06/19/1977	2	Georgia Southern
27	Wheeler, Damen	CB	5-9	179	09/03/1977	1	Colorado
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
55	Clark, Danny	LB	6-2	241	05/09/1977	2	Illinois
54	Green, Donny	LB	6-2	238	09/18/1977	1	Virginia
56	Nickerson, Hardy	LB	6-2	237	09/01/1965	15	California
58	Rainer, Wali	LB	6-2	245	04/19/1977	3	Virginia
53	Slaughter, T.J.	LB	6-0	239	02/20/1977	2	Southern Mississippi
59	Thomas, Edward	LB	6-1	229	09/27/1974	2	Georgia Southern
57	Tuipala, Joe	LB	6-1	244	09/13/1976	1	San Diego State
50	Wesley, Joe	LB	6-1	229	11/10/1976	2	LSU
52	Westmoreland, Eric	LB	6-0	234	03/11/1977	1	Tennessee
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Hanson, Chris	P	6-1	215	10/25/1976	2	Marshall
3	Holmes, Jaret	K	6-0	209	03/03/1976	3	Auburn

## 2002 DRAFTES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	9	Henderson, John	DT	6-7	306	01/09/1979	Tennessee
2	8	Pearson, Mike	T	6-6	304	08/02/1980	Florida
3	24	Ayodele, Akin	DE	6-2	258	09/17/1979	Purdue
4	10	Garrard, David	QB	6-2	235	02/14/1978	East Carolina
4	20	Luzar, Chris	TE	6-7	270	02/12/1979	Virginia
6	8	Ballard, Clenton	DT	6-3	313	04/17/1979	Southwest Texas State
7	11	Newson, Kendall	WR	6-2	183	03/05/1980	Middle Tennessee State
7	35	Smith, Steve	S	6-1	193	06/28/1979	Oregon
7	36	Epstein, Hayden	K	6-2	212	11/16/1980	Michigan





Eight-year veteran corner Aaron Glenn (top), who has 24 career NFL interceptions, welcomed an opportunity to play for the expansion Texans. He grew up near Houston and played college football at Texas A&M. Below, some NFL observers believe that ex-Raven Jermaine Lewis will show that he's more than a Pro Bowl return specialist if given the opportunity to play regularly at wide receiver.

## Not-so-expansion-like Texans could be forced to use new Carr in search of .500.

**A**s soon as the draft ended, there was talk around the NFL that Houston would not be the typical expansion team. What they meant was that the Texans would not be like the last expansion team, the "new" Cleveland Browns, who debuted with a 2-14 record in 1999.

For one thing, the Texans had one more year to prepare than the Browns. The Texans also had a larger scouting department and much better expansion draft pool from which to select players.

On the other hand, the Texans' extra pick in every round but the first was four spots lower than where Cleveland chose. And, unlike the Browns, the Texans won't benefit from a fifth-place schedule in the realigned NFL.

Still, the league schedule-makers did the Texans a favor, at least on paper. Considering this age of the salary cap—in which losers one season (Rams, Patriots) can win the Super Bowl the next—anything's possible.

The Texans open on Sunday night against the Cowboys in their new 70,000-seat, retractable-roof stadium. The Chargers and Colts are next. None of the first three opponents finished better than 6-10. They don't tangle with their first playoff team until the Eagles in the fourth game. They don't play another playoff team until December 8, when they travel to Pittsburgh.

In all, they play only three teams—Eagles, Steelers and Ravens—that reached the playoffs last season.

Another interesting note about the schedule is that the Texans don't play the Titans until November 10 at Nashville. Then, in the last regular-season game—one that could mean the playoffs or home-field advantage for Tennessee—the Titans come to Houston.

General Manager Charley Casserly and coach Dom Capers used every resource available to build their first team.

When the Browns had their expansion draft, there wasn't a Pro Bowl player on the list. Their philosophy was to draft as many players as possible, figuring there would be strength in numbers.

The Texans used the opposite approach. They went for quality over quantity, because there was an abundance of good players available. Some teams used the expansion draft to cure their salary-cap problems.

When Casserly was finished wheeling and dealing, Capers had veteran starters at such important positions as offensive tackle (Tony Boselli, Ryan Young), defensive line (Gary Walker, Seth Payne), cornerback (Aaron Glenn, Marcus Coleman), inside linebacker (Jamie Sharper) and kickoff and punt returns (Jermaine Lewis).

In free agency, Casserly signed such starters as guard Steve McKinney, who'll play center, outside linebacker Kailee Wong, receiver Corey Bradford, running back James Allen, kicker Kris Brown, outside linebacker Greg Jones, free safety Matt Stevens and tight end Rod Rutledge. Inside linebacker Jay Foreman came in a trade.

In the regular draft, the Texans had 13 picks, including one in the first round. They used the top pick on Fresno State quarterback David Carr, who threw 46 touchdown passes and nine interceptions as a fifth-year senior last season.

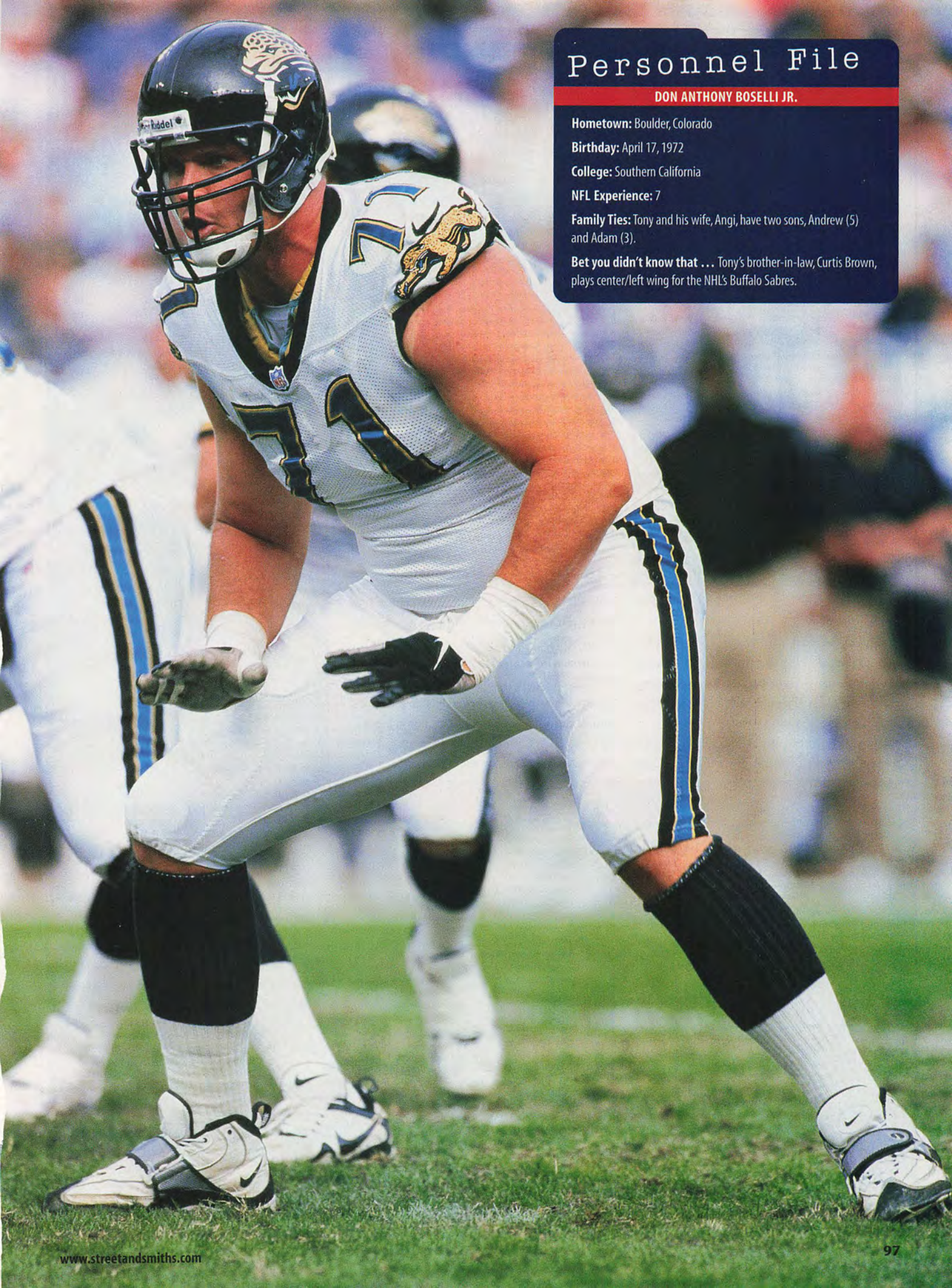
The plan is to bring Carr along slowly and not play him until Capers and offensive coordinator Chris Palmer believe he's ready. Journeyman Kent Graham, who has played for so many teams he keeps a Rand McNally guide in his pocket, is supposed to groom Carr, then step aside when the coaches anoint him as the savior.

But don't be surprised if Carr starts from the first game against Dallas. Palmer, who is regarded as one of the best quarterback coaches in the league, had Drew Bledsoe (1993) and Tim Couch (1999). Both started from Day One.

Capers was Carolina's head coach in 1995 when the Panthers debuted 7-9, a record for an expansion team. After an 0-3 start and a bye week, Capers inserted his top pick, rookie quarterback Kerry Collins, into the lineup, and they went 7-6 the rest of the way.

If Graham opens as the starter, the best scenario would be to keep Carr on the bench for four games and, after the bye week, give





## Personnel File

**DON ANTHONY BOSELLI JR.**

**Hometown:** Boulder, Colorado

**Birthday:** April 17, 1972

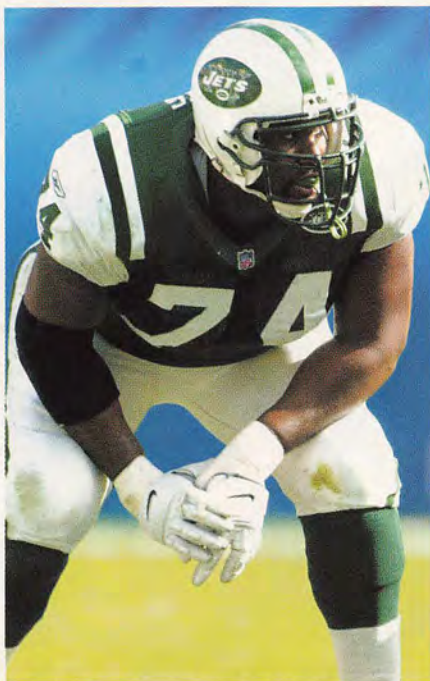
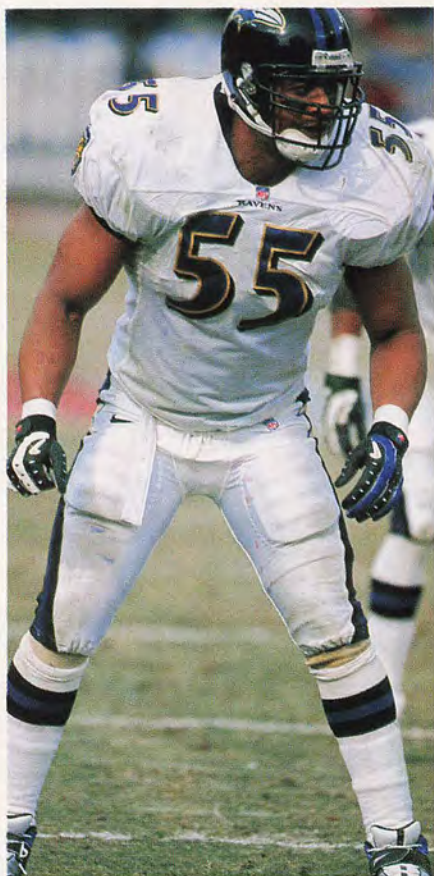
**College:** Southern California

**NFL Experience:** 7

**Family Ties:** Tony and his wife, Angi, have two sons, Andrew (5) and Adam (3).

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Tony's brother-in-law, Curtis Brown, plays center/left wing for the NHL's Buffalo Sabres.





A victim of the salary-cap purge in Baltimore, Jamie Sharper (left), who had a career-high six sacks last year with the Ravens, will bring considerable talent and experience to coach Dom Capers' linebacking corps. Fellow expansion draftee Ryan Young will step into a starting position at right tackle.

him his first start October 13 against the Bills in Houston.

Casserly worked hard to try to build both sides of the ball. He was particularly methodical about the offensive line because he doesn't want Carr to be physically punished in his first couple of seasons.

After using the expansion draft and free agency to load up with offensive linemen, the Texans

selected tackle Chester Pitts and center Fred Weary in the second and third rounds. Pitts and Weary will be tried at guard.

Carr needed a target to play opposite Bradford, and Florida's Jabar Gaffney, a third-year sophomore, was selected with the top pick in the second round. But since rookie receivers always seem to struggle, and Gaffney could have played two more years in college, he could be a project.

## PROJECTED STARTERS

Stevens FS X		Williams SS X		X KR Lewis
Jones OLB X		Foreman ILB X		X PR Lewis
Walker RE X		Payne NT X		
Coleman CB X	Walker RE X	Payne NT X	Issa LE X	Glenn CB X
Bradford WR	Boselli LT	Campbell LG	Pitts RG	Rutledge TE
		McKinney C	Young RT	Gaffney WR
		Carr QB		
K Brown	Baxter FB	Allen RB	HOUSTON TEXANS	
P Stanley				

## Expansion draft yields five Pro Bowlers for Texans

The sole participant in an expansion draft with a quality of player unlike any before it, Houston had veteran personnel folks wondering if the NFL's newest franchise should be called "Bandits" instead of "Texans."

Before a crowd of 4,000 at the George R. Brown Convention Center, the Texans ended up with five former Pro Bowlers from the 19 players they selected February 18 in Houston.

The headliner was their first pick, five-time Pro Bowl left tackle Tony Boselli, who was made available by the Jacksonville Jaguars because of salary-cap concerns dealing with his high-dollar contract.

With their next pick, Houston found a bookend for Boselli, selecting New York Jets right tackle Ryan Young, who built a streak of 40 consecutive starts with the Jets.

The Texans further solidified themselves up front by taking former Redskins starting guard Matt Campbell with the ninth pick and ex-Philadelphia tackle Ryan Schau in the 12th round.

If great teams are indeed built up front, the Texans got off to a pretty solid start in their construction.

"You know, my goal is not just to be OK as an offensive line," Boselli said. "I want to be the best offensive line in the NFL."

On defense, Houston was able to pluck such quality players as ex-Jets corner Aaron Glenn with the third pick, former Jacksonville defensive tackle and 2001 Pro Bowler Gary Walker with the fourth choice and ex-Ravens linebacker Jamie Sharper, who is coming off a career-high 134 tackles, in the fifth round.

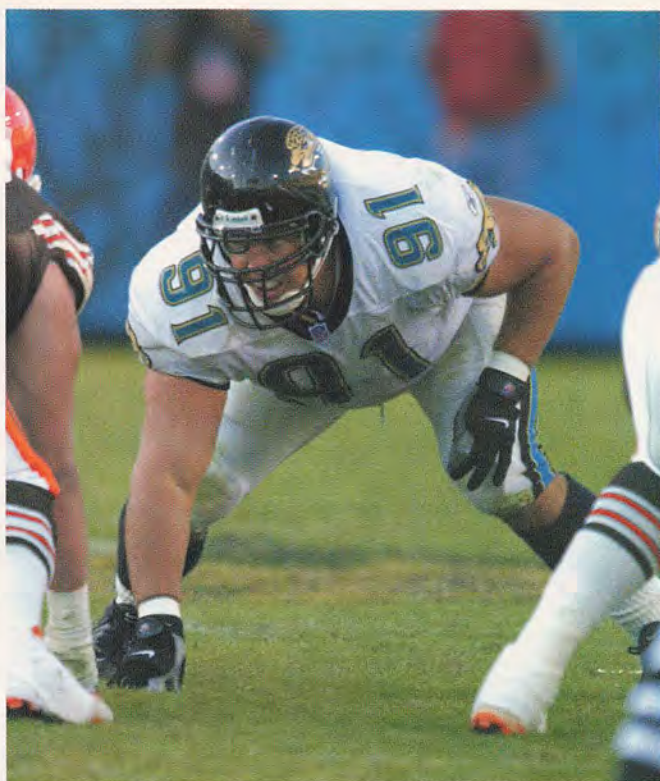
And they got a head start on special teams by selecting two-time Pro Bowl return man Jermaine Lewis off the Baltimore roster. Lewis, Houston's sixth pick, is only two years removed from posting the best punt return average (16.1) in league history.

The Texans chose quality over quantity. The 19 players selected were the fewest in the history of NFL expansion drafts. With several teams looking to shed veterans to get under the salary cap, Houston General Manager Charley Casserly said he saw an opportunity to get quality players without taking a big dive into what he considered a weak free-agent market. Conversely, recent expansion teams like Carolina, Jacksonville and Cleveland drafted around 30 expansion players and spent heavily on free agents heading into their first season.

"It was clear to us in the fall that teams were going to jam these lists with as many high-priced players as they could," Casserly said. "So it was clear to us that we were going to try and work as hard as we could to take a group of quality players and not worry about getting 30-35 players."

—D. Scott Smith





Sixth-year defensive tackle Seth Payne, the No. 8 pick in February's expansion draft, started the past three seasons for the Jaguars.

Veteran James Allen is the starting running back, and he should be pushed by rookie Jonathan Wells, a fourth-round pick from Ohio State. Jarrod Baxter, a fifth-round pick, may have been the best blocking fullback in the draft.

Because it's what's up front that counts, Casserly used four draft choices on defensive linemen, including Charles Hill, a third-round pick who's ideally suited to play on the nose in Capers' 3-4 system.

The return game is in excellent hands with Lewis, who averaged 12.4 yards (punts) and 24.7 yards (kickoffs) for the Ravens last season. He has been one of the most dangerous return men in the league for years, and he'll also line up as a slot receiver.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	DALLAS	8:30
September 15	at San Diego	4:15
September 22	INDIANAPOLIS	1:00
September 29	at Philadelphia	1:00
October 6	OPEN DATE	
October 13	BUFFALO	1:00
October 20	at Cleveland	4:05
October 27	at Jacksonville	4:15
November 3	CINCINNATI	1:00
November 10	at Tennessee	1:00
November 17	JACKSONVILLE	4:15
November 24	NY GIANTS	4:15
December 1	at Indianapolis	4:05
December 8	at Pittsburgh	1:00
December 15	BALTIMORE	1:00
December 22	at Washington	1:00
December 29	TENNESSEE	1:00

All times Eastern

## HOUSTON TEXANS

Dom Capers, head coach

Joe Marciano, special teams; Eric Sutulovich, assistant special teams coach/administrative assistant; Kippy Brown, wide receivers; Reggie Herring, linebackers; Tony Marciano, offensive line; Todd Grantham, defensive line; Dan Riley, strength and conditioning; Chris Palmer, offensive coordinator; Jon Hoke, defensive backs; Jedd Fisch, defensive quality control; Chick Harris, running backs; Steve Marshall, assistant offensive line; Vic Fangio, defensive coordinator; Greg Roman, tight ends; Brian Stewart, asst. defensive backs

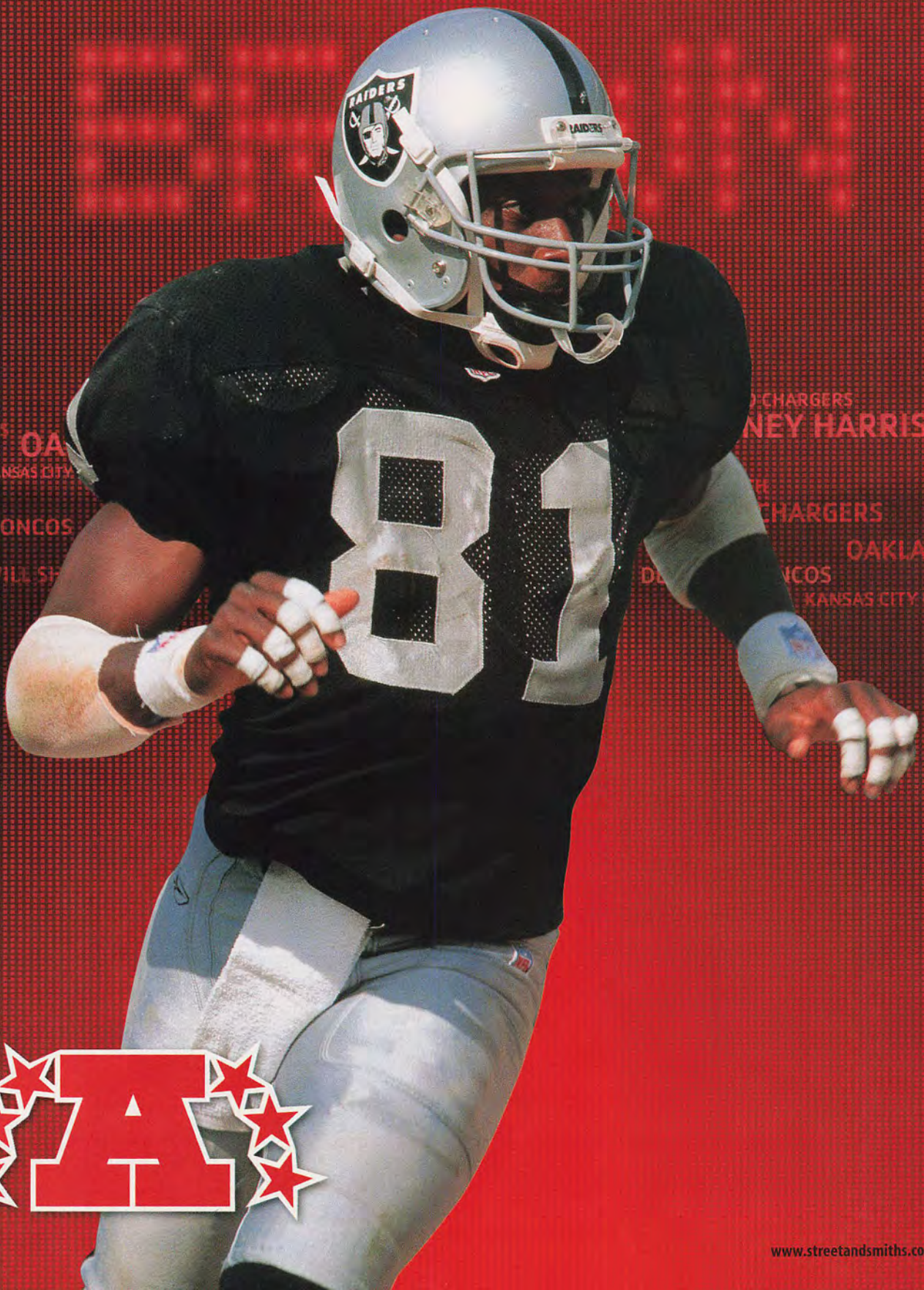
#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Graham, Kent	QB	6-5	245	11/01/1968	9	Ohio State
4	Quinn, Mike	QB	6-4	215	04/15/1974	2	Stephen F. Austin
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
71	Boselli, Tony	T	6-7	322	04/17/1972	7	Southern California
66	Campbell, Matt	G	6-4	300	07/14/1972	7	South Carolina
71	Graham, DeMingo	G	6-3	310	09/10/1973	3	Hofstra
	Herndon, Jimmy	T	6-8	315	08/30/1973	4	Houston
69	Hicks, Robert	T	6-7	330	11/17/1974	3	Mississippi State
84	McDermott, Sean	C	6-4	250	12/05/1976	1	Kansas
66	McKinney, Jeremy	T	6-6	301	01/06/1976	1	Iowa
76	McKinney, Steve	G	6-4	295	10/15/1975	4	Texas A&M
65	Newell, Mike	C	6-4	300	07/22/1976	0	Colorado State
79	Overhauser, Chad	T	6-4	316	06/17/1975	0	UCLA
67	Schau, Ryan	T	6-6	300	12/30/1975	3	Illinois
79	Wisne, Jerry	T	6-6	315	07/28/1976	1	Notre Dame
74	Young, Ryan	T	6-5	320	06/28/1976	3	Kansas State
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
20	Allen, James	RB	5-10	215	03/28/1975	4	Oklahoma
46	Groce, Clif	RB	5-11	245	07/30/1972	5	Texas A&M
22	Moreau, Frank	RB	6-0	223	09/09/1976	2	Louisville
44	Snider, Matt	RB	6-2	240	01/26/1976	3	Richmond
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
89	Black, Avion	WR	5-11	185	04/24/1977	2	Tennessee State
85	Bradford, Corey	WR	6-1	197	12/08/1975	4	Jackson State
19	Gideon, Sherrod	WR	6-0	176	02/21/1977	0	Southern Mississippi
49	Huggins, Johnny	TE	6-3	245	03/29/1976	1	Alabama State
83	Insley, Trevor	WR	6-0	190	12/25/1977	1	Nevada
84	Lewis, Jermaine	WR	5-7	180	10/16/1974	6	Maryland
82	Miller, Billy	TE	6-3	225	04/24/1977	2	Southern California
89	Moreland, Jake	TE	6-3	255	01/18/1977	2	Western Michigan
83	Rutledge, Rod	TE	6-5	265	08/12/1975	4	Alabama
15	Simmons, Tony	WR	6-1	212	12/08/1974	4	Wisconsin
85	Sinceno, Kaseem	TE	6-4	255	03/26/1976	2	Syracuse
89	Young, Adam	TE	6-5	260	04/15/1977	0	Dartmouth
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
72	Boose, Dorian	DE	6-5	292	01/29/1974	4	Washington State
92	DeLoach, Jerry	DT	6-2	315	07/17/1977	1	California
72	Issa, Jabari	DE	6-5	300	04/18/1978	2	Washington
91	Payne, Seth	DT	6-4	303	02/12/1975	5	Cornell
94	Sears, Corey	DT	6-4	306	04/15/1973	3	Mississippi State
96	Walker, Gary	DT	6-2	305	02/28/1973	7	Auburn
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
29	Akbar, Hakim	S	6-0	212	08/11/1980	1	Washington
42	Carter, Chris	S	6-2	212	09/27/1974	5	Texas
42	Coleman, Marcus	CB	6-2	210	05/24/1974	6	Texas Tech
40	Evans, Leomont	S	6-2	202	07/12/1974	4	Clemson
31	Glenn, Aaron	CB	5-9	185	07/16/1972	8	Texas A&M
26	Malbrough, Anthony	CB	5-10	185	12/09/1976	1	Texas Tech
22	Shepherd, Jacoby	CB	6-1	195	08/31/1979	2	Oklahoma State
23	Simmons, Jason	CB	5-9	198	03/30/1976	4	Arizona State
26	Stevens, Matt	S	6-0	205	06/15/1973	6	Appalachian State
35	Suttle, Jason	CB	5-10	182	12/02/1974	3	Wisconsin
38	Williams, Kevin	S	6-0	190	08/04/1975	3	Oklahoma State
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
51	Allen, Brian	LB	6-1	238	04/01/1978	1	Florida State
59	Elam, Shane	LB	6-1	240	11/06/1977	1	Mississippi
	Foreman, Jay	LB	6-1	240	02/18/1976	3	Nebraska
52	Granville, Billy	LB	6-3	246	03/11/1974	4	Duke
	Jones, Greg	LB	6-4	245	05/22/1974	5	Colorado
50	Jones, Robert	LB	6-3	245	09/27/1969	10	East Carolina
51	Palmer, Mitch	LB	6-4	257	09/02/1973	3	Colorado State
58	Posey, Jeff	LB	6-4	240	08/14/1975	4	Southern Mississippi
59	Samuel, Khari	LB	6-3	240	10/14/1976	3	Massachusetts
55	Sharper, Jamie	LB	6-3	240	11/23/1974	5	Virginia
99	Tisdale, Casey	LB	6-4	255	06/18/1976	0	New Mexico
52	Wong, Kailee	LB	6-2	250	05/23/1976	4	Stanford
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Baker, John	P	6-3	223	04/22/1977	2	North Texas
3	Brown, Kris	K	5-11	206	12/23/1976	3	Nebraska
12	Stanley, Chad	P	6-3	205	01/29/1976	3	Stephen F. Austin
11	Tutthill, James	K	6-2	250	03/25/1976	0	Cal Poly

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	1	Carr, David	QB	6-3	223	07/21/1979	Fresno State
2	1	Gaffney, Jabar	WR	6-1	193	12/01/1980	Florida
2	18	Pitts, Chester	T	6-3	320	06/26/1979	San Diego State
3	1	Weary, Fred	C	6-4	310	09/30/1977	Tennessee
3	18	Hill, Charles	DT	6-1	293	11/01/1980	Maryland
4	1	Wells, Jonathan	RB	6-1	245	07/21/1979	Ohio State
5	1	Baxter, Jarrod	RB	6-1	245	03/09/1979	New Mexico
5	18	Walker, Ramon	S	6-0	197	11/08/1979	Pittsburgh
6	1	Faggins, DeMarcus	CB	5-10	178	06/13/1979	Kansas State
6	18	Green, Howard	DT	6-2	331	01/12/1979	LSU
7	18	White, Greg	DE	6-3	268	07/25/1979	Minnesota
7	50	Miller, Ahmad	DT	6-3	306	04/10/1978	UNLV



# AFC WEST





# Vastly improved, Gruden-less West won't take a back seat this season.

**L**osing Seattle to the NFC was no great loss for AFC West teams, but it did cost them a fabulous road trip. Too bad the NFC couldn't have taken Kansas City.

Only one team from this division reached the playoffs. Don't count on that happening again, not with the improvement all four teams made in the offseason.

Oakland is the defending champion, and the only thing that happened to the Raiders in the offseason that might hurt them is the loss of coach Jon Gruden. But offensive line coach Bill Callahan was elevated to preserve continuity on the division's oldest and best team that is circling the wagons for one last stand before age and the salary cap take their toll.

Denver and San Diego had exceptional drafts. San Diego and Kansas City filled in a lot of holes in free agency and the draft. When all is said and done, the Chargers could be the most improved team in the league. It will be just as interesting to see which team finishes on the bottom as the top.

## Denver Broncos

Owner Pat Bowlen expects to get more bang for his buck than last season when he had the highest payroll in the NFL, and his team didn't even post a winning record. Bowlen expects more this season. That's one reason coach Mike Shanahan brought back tight end Shannon Sharpe after his two-year exile in Baltimore. Shanahan believes one thing missing in the dressing room and on the sideline is the kind of leadership Sharpe provides.

Perhaps Sharpe can be the calming influence quarterback Brian Griese needs after his meltdown last season when he was a huge disappointment. Unless Sharpe helps bring out the Griese of 2000, the Broncos will be doomed again.

## Oakland Raiders

Gruden was the NFL's only coach to win division

titles in each of the last two seasons. So why did he relocate to Tampa Bay? Because he was getting bigger than Al Davis.

But Davis proved he can still swing a big-time deal. Rather than keep Gruden for one more season, and allow him to leave with nothing in return, Davis came away with extra picks in the first and second rounds spread over three years.

Considering that quarterback Rich Gannon and receivers Jerry Rice and Tim Brown have been playing in the NFL since, it seems, the Nixon Administration, the Raiders are getting ready for what could be one last hooray.

## San Diego Chargers

The Chargers improved from one to five victories in General Manager John Butler's first season in San Diego. He fired coach Mike Riley and hired Marty Schottenheimer, who must feel like he died and went to heaven after being released from Washington with a \$10 million paycheck and allowed to relocate to one of the most incredible places on earth. That's San Diego, not the Chargers.

For the second offseason, Butler shrewdly used the draft and free agency to continue the Chargers' makeover from ugly duckling to pheasant under glass. Imagine the excitement in San Diego if the Chargers were the home team at Super Bowl XXXVII.

## Kansas City Chiefs

Dick Vermeil knows the formula for a Super Bowl team: A lot of hard work and a lot of tears. Slowly but surely, he's resurrecting a team that was on life support and turning it into a living, breathing Super Bowl contender.

Just not this season.

But no one has to remind Vermeil that two of the last three Super Bowl champions—St. Louis in 1999 and New England last season—had losing records the previous season.



Previews by John McClain

## TOP PLAYERS

### OFFENSE:

**Rod Smith, WR**  
Denver Broncos

### DEFENSE:

**Charles Woodson, CB**  
Oakland Raiders

### NEWCOMER:

**Quentin Jammer, CB**  
San Diego Chargers





# Denver Broncos

AFC WEST

## If life of Brian gets better and someone catches the ball other than Rod Smith, Broncos could be really kicking.

**E**d McCaffrey should demand to renegotiate. When the veteran receiver went down for the season, the Broncos plummeted and were never able to recover. McCaffrey's back, but is quarterback Brian Griese?

Denver's 8-8 season, in which McCaffrey watched from the sideline and

Griese threw an uncharacteristic 19 interceptions, was enough to make coach Mike Shanahan flirt with the University of Florida. Once Shanahan realized everyone from Steamboat Springs to Purgatory still loved him, he politely thanked the Gators and informed owner Pat Bowlen that he was staying put.

The most pressing issue for the Broncos is what to do about Griese, who signed a big contract for more money than his father Bob ever thought about making—but then did little to earn it.

### OFFENSE

Griese threw for 2,827 yards, completed 61 percent and totaled 23 touchdowns. Despite his interceptions, the Broncos were plus-10 in turnover ratio because they lost only nine fumbles.

Griese's passer rating of 78.5 ranked 15th. His passer rating on third down was 69.7 (17th), and in the fourth quarter it was 51.4. Thirty-four quarterbacks—more than one per team—ranked better than Griese in the fourth quarter.

See what we mean about McCaffrey?

Denver's receivers block as well or better than any in the league. Unfortunately, last season, only Rod Smith caught the ball with any regularity. Although coverages were designed to stop him, Smith had 113 receptions for 1,343 yards and 11 touchdowns. No other Denver wideout caught more than 15 passes.

Smith was so dominant that the Broncos' second-leading receiver was tight end Desmond Clark with 51 catches. No other player had as many as 35. No wonder Shanahan used his No. 1 pick



Despite some struggles, Brian Griese continued to display his accuracy as a passer last season, connecting on 61 percent of his throws for 2,827 yards. His career percentage is still above .600.

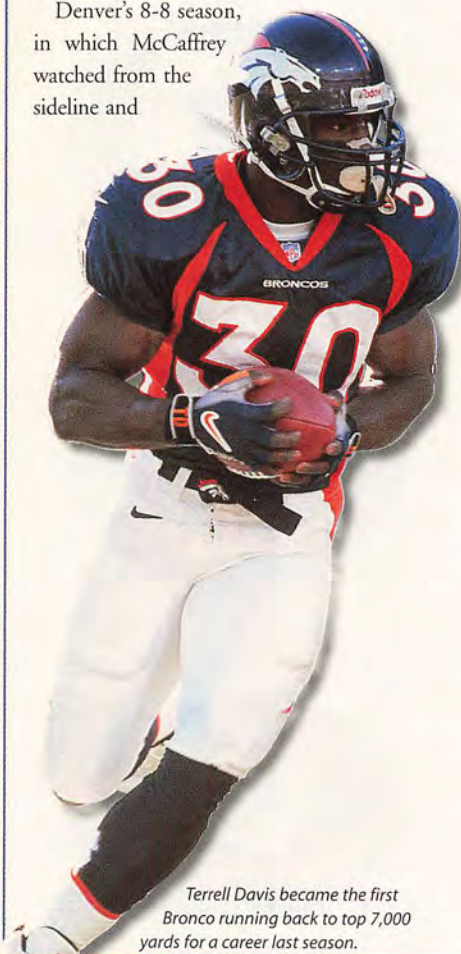
on Hawaii receiver Ashley Lelie, an underclassman with 4.3 speed who, everyone predicts, will catch more than 15 passes this season.

Shanahan's second-round pick, Miami running back Clinton Portis, raised a lot of eyebrows around the league but shouldn't have. Terrell Davis' initials used to mean something, but not last year when he failed to score a touchdown. Davis, a former 2,000-yard rusher and league MVP, was in and out of the lineup because of injuries but led the team with 701 yards rushing.

Mike Anderson, who has been moved to full-back, gained 678 one season after reaching 1,500. Olandis Gary had 228. That threesome used to be considered an embarrassment of riches, but not anymore. In 2001, they combined for 1,607 yards rushing, which Davis used to gain by Thanksgiving.

Portis, who wasn't supposed to be available when the Broncos made their selection in the second round, is a 205-pounder with 4.4 speed and good hands. At least one back's got to go, and the only one who can sign a new lease is Portis.

Shanahan, who'll have to make the tough decision to let one of his backs go, brought back tight end Shannon Sharpe, who has three Super Bowl rings—two with the Broncos and one with the Ravens. Sharpe, who spent the last two seasons in



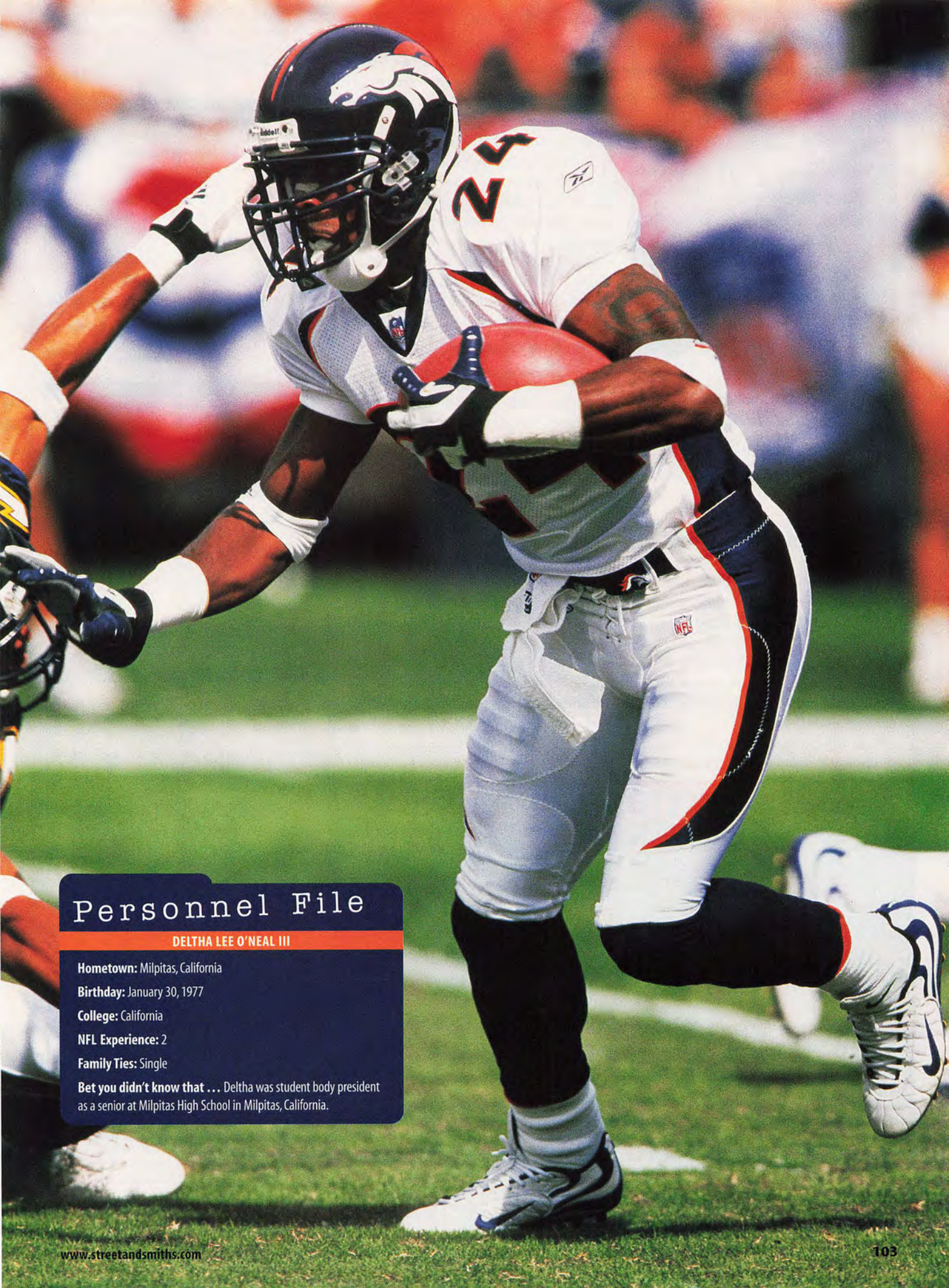
Terrell Davis became the first Bronco running back to top 7,000 yards for a career last season.

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	301.1	22	TOTAL DEFENSE	298.4	8
RUSHING	117.3	10	AGAINST RUSH	93.3	6
PASSING	183.8	25	AGAINST PASS	205.1	16
SCORING	340	10	PTS. ALLOWED	339	21
PUNT RETURNS	13.1	3	INTERCEPTIONS	22	5
KICK RETURNS	23.5	4	SACKS	39	17
RED ZONE TD %	51.9	10	TURNOVER DIFF.	+10	6







## Personnel File

**DELTHA LEE O'NEAL III**

**Hometown:** Milpitas, California

**Birthday:** January 30, 1977

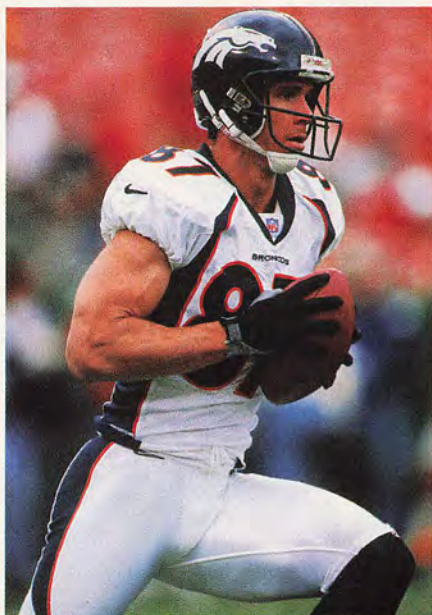
**College:** California

**NFL Experience:** 2

**Family Ties:** Single

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Deltha was student body president as a senior at Milpitas High School in Milpitas, California.





The Broncos hope veteran receiver Ed McCaffrey bounces back this season after a broken tibia and fibula in his left leg caused him to miss all but one game last year.

Baltimore, doesn't know what it's like to watch the playoffs on television. He caught 73 passes last season when he set the league record for career catches by a tight end. Sharpe can still talk a great game and, if he plays half as well as he talks, he'll be able to help the Broncos return to the playoffs.

Perhaps the additions of Sharpe, Lelie and Portis will help the Broncos improve on last season's rankings of 22nd in total offense, 10th in rushing and 25th passing.

What really hurt was the offensive line's inability to sustain its performance from previous seasons.

Line coach Alex Gibbs, one of the best in NFL history, retired from full-time work but served as a consultant. They missed him on the practice field and in the meeting rooms.

The line, anchored by center Tom Nalen, has to play better on run blocking and pass protection if the Broncos are going to return to the playoffs. They signed free agent Ephraim Salaam to play right tackle opposite Matt Lepsis. Salaam replaces Trey Teague, who signed with Buffalo.

Guards Dan Neil and Len Friedman are tougher than rawhide, but Neil has to stay away from the fines he was issued by the league last season for what it deemed cheap shots.

## DEFENSE

Denver's defense will have to overcome the loss of outside linebacker Bill Romanowski. Rather than accept a huge pay cut, he asked to be waived, then signed with the Broncos' most bitter rival, the Raiders.

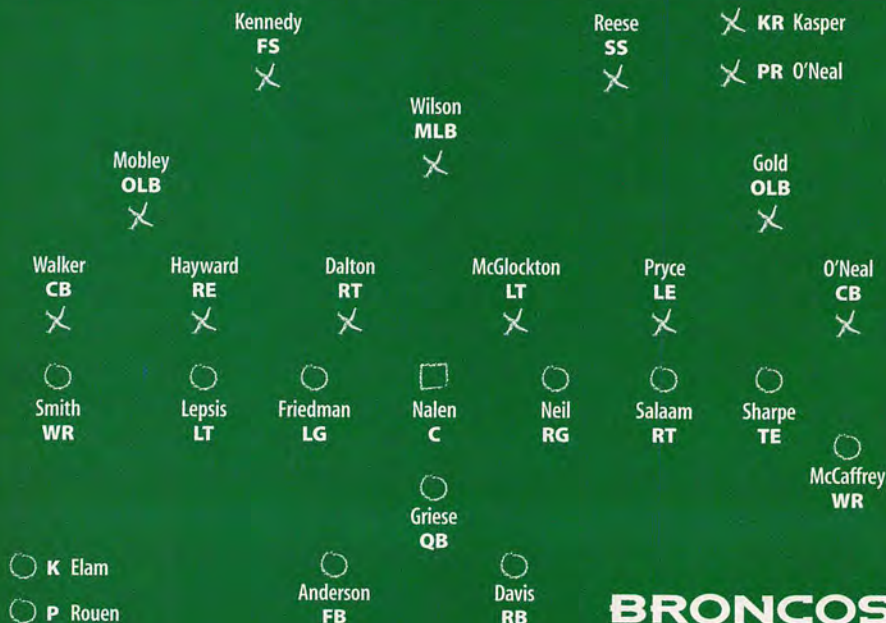
Ian Gold has a lot of talent, and he deserved a chance to play, but he's got some big shoes to fill replacing Romanowski, who was the spirit of the defense for years.

Defensive tackle Lionel Dalton was signed as a free agent from Baltimore. He'll be paired with Chester McGlockton on a line with Reggie Hayward and Trevor Pryce, the team's best pass rusher.

The Broncos played good defense last season, ranking eighth, including sixth against the run and 16th against the pass. Defense didn't cost them victories.

Gold starts at one outside linebacker spot opposite John Mobley. They're sandwiched around

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 8, Lost 8

DATE	SCORE	
09/10	W 31-20	N.Y. Giants
09/23	W 38-17	at Arizona
09/30	L 13-20	Baltimore
10/07	W 20-6	Kansas City
10/14	L 21-34	at Seattle
10/21	L 10-27	at San Diego
10/28	W 31-20	New England
11/05	L 28-38	at Oakland
11/11	W 26-16	San Diego
11/18	L 10-17	Washington
11/22	W 26-24	at Dallas
12/02	L 10-21	at Miami
12/09	W 20-7	Seattle
12/16	L 23-26	at Kansas City
12/30	W 23-17	Oakland
01/06	L 10-29	at Indianapolis

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Davis	167	701	4.2	57	0
Anderson	175	678	3.9	62	4
Gary	57	228	4.0	29	1
Griese	50	173	3.5	24	1
Smith	3	27	9.0	17	0
Kasper	3	19	6.3	27	0
Coleman	4	17	4.3	8	0
Kennison	3	9	3.0	10	0
Frerotte	10	9	0.9	4	1
Jackson	5	7	1.4	4	0
Montgomery	1	5	5.0	5	0
Carter	1	4	4.0	4	0
Hape	2	0	0	0	0

Team	481	1877	3.9	62t	7
Opponents	406	1492	3.7	60t	9

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
R. Smith	113	1343	11.9	65	11
De. Clark	51	566	11.1	39	6
Carswell	34	299	8.8	25	4
Kennison	15	169	11.3	36	1
Hape	15	96	6.4	25	3
T. Davis	12	69	5.8	16	0
Montgomery	11	99	9.0	23	0
Carter	11	83	7.5	17	0
Cole	9	128	14.2	21	0
Kasper	8	84	10.5	21	0
Anderson	8	46	5.8	16	0
McCaffrey	6	94	15.7	28	1
Coleman	6	45	7.5	9	0
Poole	5	38	7.6	10	0
Gary	4	29	7.3	11	0
Dominguez	3	26	8.7	12	0

Team	312	3208	10.3	65t	26
Opponents	308	3561	11.6	72t	23

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Griese	451	275	2827	23	19
Frerotte	48	30	308	3	0
Jackson	12	7	73	0	0

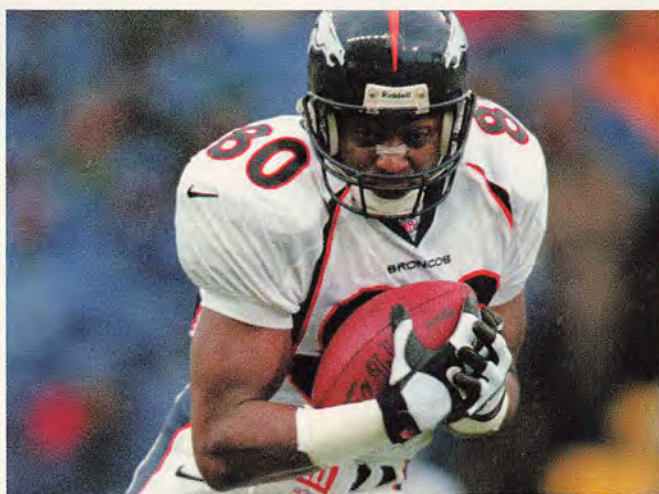
Team	511	312	3208	26	19
Opponents	515	308	3561	23	22

## SACKS

Pryce 7.0, Romanowski 7.0, Washington 4.0, Brown 3.0, Gold 3.0, Hayward 3.0, Wilson 3.0, Berry 2.0, Kennedy 2.0, McGlockton 1.0, Mobley 1.0, Pittman 1.0, Reagor 1.0, Woodall 1.0

Broncos 39.0, Opponents 42.0





Earning a trip to the Pro Bowl for the second straight year, wide receiver Rod Smith led the NFL in receptions last season with a franchise-record 113.

Al Wilson. As a group, they're fast and furious and have what it takes to become one of the league's better troikas.

Deltha O'Neal developed into a big-play cornerback last season. He intercepted nine passes and made one big play after another. His counterpart, Denard Walker, was better than average. Together, they form a relentless and reckless twosome that'll make more big plays than bad plays.

Free safety Kenoy Kennedy and new strong safety Izell Reese don't rank with O'Neal and Walker, so they have to play smarter and better because they're the last line of defense.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Under Shanahan, the Broncos always have special teams that rank among the league's best. Kicker Jason Elam connected on 31 of 36 field goal attempts and scored 124 points. He's been a premier player at his position for years.

Punter Tom Rouen doesn't get near the credit he should because he plays in high altitude, but he had only eight touchbacks and left 25 punts inside the opponents' 20.

The coverage teams were average, but the return game was outstanding. O'Neal averaged 13.1 yards on punt returns and Kevin Kasper 26.6 on kickoffs.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	ST. LOUIS	4:15
September 15	at San Francisco	4:15
September 22	BUFFALO	4:05
September 30	at Baltimore	9:00
October 6	SAN DIEGO	4:05
October 13	MIAMI	8:30
October 20	at Kansas City	1:00
October 27	at New England	4:15
November 3	OPEN DATE	
November 10	OAKLAND	9:00
November 17	at Seattle	4:15
November 24	INDIANAPOLIS	8:30
December 1	at San Diego	4:05
December 8	at NY Jets	4:15
December 15	KANSAS CITY	4:05
December 22	at Oakland	4:15
December 29	ARIZONA	4:15

All times Eastern

## DENVER BRONCOS

Mike Shanahan, head coach

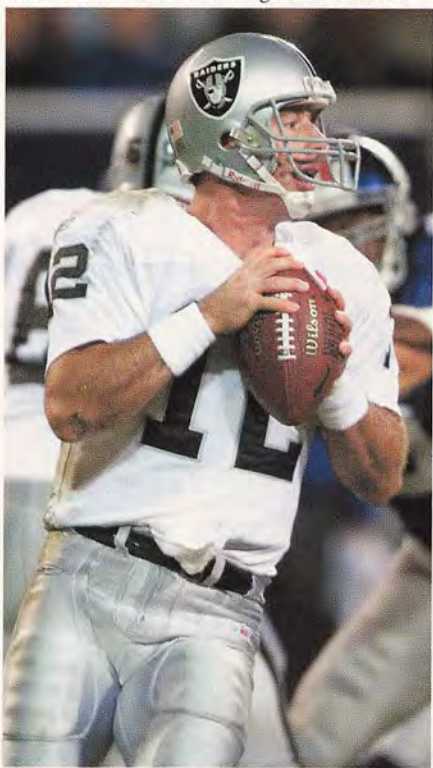
Frank Bush, special teams; Rick Dennison, offensive line; Ron Milus, defensive backs; George Dyer, assistant coach; Gary Kubiak, offensive coordinator/quarterbacks; Pat McPherson, offensive assistant; Brian Pariani, tight ends; Ray Rhodes, defensive coordinator; Greg Saporta, assistant strength and conditioning; John Teerlinck, pass rush specialist; Bobby Turner, running backs; Rich Tuten, strength and conditioning; Karl Dorrell, wide receivers; Larry Coyer, linebackers; Terry Turney, defensive assistant

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
11	Beuerlein, Steve	QB	6-3	220	03/07/1965	12	Notre Dame
14	Griese, Brian	QB	6-3	215	03/18/1975	4	Michigan
8	Husak, Todd	QB	6-3	215	07/06/1978	1	Stanford
17	Jackson, Jarious	QB	6-0	228	05/03/1977	2	Notre Dame
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
76	Brooks, Barrett	T	6-4	326	05/05/1972	6	Kansas State
65	Carlisle, Cooper	G	6-5	295	08/11/1977	2	Florida
63	Diaz-Infante, David	C	6-3	295	03/31/1964	6	San Jose State
64	Friedman, Lennie	G	6-3	285	10/13/1976	2	Duke
50	Hamilton, Ben	C	6-4	283	08/18/1977	0	Minnesota
79	Herndon, Steve	G	6-4	305	05/25/1977	1	Georgia
67	Humphrey, Jay	T	6-6	314	06/20/1976	0	Texas
60	Jones, K.C.	C	6-1	275	03/28/1974	1	Miami (FL)
78	Lepis, Matt	T	6-4	290	01/13/1974	4	Colorado
69	Moore, Michael	G	6-3	301	11/01/1976	1	Troy State
66	Nalen, Tom	C	6-3	286	05/13/1971	8	Boston College
62	Neil, Dan	G	6-2	285	10/21/1973	5	Texas
74	Salaam, Ephraim	T	6-7	300	06/19/1976	4	San Diego State
72	Winey, Brandon	T	6-6	305	01/27/1978	0	LSU
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
38	Anderson, Mike	RB	6-0	230	09/21/1973	2	Utah
37	Carter, Tony	RB	6-0	235	08/23/1972	8	Minnesota
46	Coleman, KaRon	RB	5-7	198	05/22/1978	2	Stephen F. Austin
30	Davis, Terrell	RB	5-11	210	10/28/1972	7	Georgia
21	Droughns, Reuben	RB	5-11	207	08/21/1978	1	Oregon
22	Gary, Olandis	RB	5-11	218	05/18/1975	3	Georgia
86	Hape, Patrick	RB	6-4	262	06/06/1974	5	Alabama
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
89	Carswell, Dwayne	TE	6-3	260	01/18/1972	8	Liberty
88	Clark, Desmond	TE	6-3	255	04/20/1977	3	Wake Forest
84	Cole, Chris	WR	6-0	195	11/12/1977	2	Texas A&M
49	Dominguez, Matt	TE	6-2	219	06/27/1978	1	Sam Houston State
82	Kasper, Kevin	WR	6-0	193	12/23/1977	1	Iowa
87	McCaffrey, Ed	WR	6-5	215	08/17/1968	11	Stanford
85	McGeoghan, Phil	WR	6-3	200	07/08/1979	1	Maine
83	Montgomery, Scottie	WR	6-1	195	05/26/1978	2	Duke
85	Moore, Rob	WR	6-3	204	09/27/1968	10	Syracuse
82	Sharpe, Shannon	TE	6-2	232	06/26/1968	12	Savannah State
80	Smith, Rod	WR	6-0	200	05/15/1970	7	Missouri Southern State
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
92	Berry, Bert	DE	6-3	250	08/15/1975	4	Notre Dame
73	Brown, Cyron	DE	6-5	275	06/28/1975	2	Western Illinois
91	Dalton, Lionel	DT	6-1	309	02/21/1975	4	Eastern Michigan
98	Hayward, Reggie	DE	6-5	255	03/14/1979	1	Iowa State
60	Johnson, Garrett	DT	6-3	295	12/31/1975	1	Illinois
90	Johnson, Jerry	DT	6-0	290	07/11/1977	1	Florida State
91	McGlockton, Chester	DT	6-4	334	09/16/1969	10	Clemson
95	Pittman, Kavika	DE	6-6	273	10/09/1974	6	McNeese State
93	Pryce, Trevor	DT	6-5	295	08/03/1975	5	Clemson
99	Reagor, Montae	DT	6-3	280	06/29/1977	3	Texas Tech
	Tovessi, Paul	DE	6-6	260	02/26/1978	0	Marshall
97	Washington, Keith	DE	6-4	275	12/18/1972	6	UNLV
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
47	Clark, Darius	S	5-10	204	04/13/1977	1	Duke
48	Coghill, George	S	6-0	210	03/30/1970	4	Wake Forest
20	Hughley, Delvin	CB	5-10	202	04/18/1978	0	Jacksonville State
28	Kennedy, Kenoy	S	6-1	215	11/15/1977	2	Arkansas
23	Middlebrooks, Willie	CB	6-1	200	02/12/1979	1	Minnesota
24	O'Neal, Deltha	CB	5-10	196	01/30/1977	2	California
38	Poole, Tyrone	CB	5-8	188	02/03/1972	6	Fort Valley State
43	Reese, Izell	CB	6-2	195	05/07/1974	4	UAB
33	Spencer, Jimmy	CB	5-9	188	03/29/1969	10	Florida
27	Walker, Denard	CB	6-1	190	08/09/1973	5	LSU
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
55	Burns, Keith	LB	6-2	235	05/16/1972	8	Oklahoma State
52	Gold, Ian	LB	6-0	223	08/23/1978	2	Michigan
56	Killens, Terry	LB	6-1	235	03/24/1974	6	Penn State
51	Mobley, John	LB	6-1	236	10/10/1973	6	Kutztown
56	Wilson, Al	LB	6-0	240	06/21/1977	3	Tennessee
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
1	Elam, Jason	K	5-11	200	03/08/1970	9	Hawaii
16	Rouen, Tom	P	6-3	225	06/09/1968	9	Colorado
2002 DRAFTES							
RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	19	Lellie, Ashley	WR	6-2	197	02/16/1980	Hawaii
2	19	Portis, Clinton	RB	5-10	205	09/01/1981	Miami (FL)
3	31	Davis, Dorsett	DT	6-5	304	01/24/1979	Mississippi State
4	33	Brandon, Sam	S	6-2	199	07/05/1979	UNLV
5	9	Haygood, Herb	WR	5-11	193	12/29/1977	Michigan State
6	19	Putzier, Jeb	TE	6-4	230	————	Boise State
7	17	Young, Chris	S	6-0	210	01/23/1980	Georgia Tech
7	20	Pope, Monsanto	DT	6-3	295	01/27/1978	Virginia



## Aging Raiders hope to milk Gannon, Brown, Rice and Co. one more season before salary-cap monster strikes.

**A**fter winning the division title the last two years, the Raiders have regressed in the playoffs. They lost at home in the AFC Championship Game two years ago and lost a divisional game at New England last season in a contest that continues to generate controversy because of the "tuck rule." At that pace, the Raiders will lose a wild-card game this season.



Rich Gannon became only the second Raider to pass for more than 3,000 yards in three consecutive seasons in 2001, joining former Oakland great Daryle Lamonica, who did it in the 1967-69 seasons.

Coach Bill Callahan has some huge shoes to fill. Although the Raiders were undisciplined on and off the field—and coach Jon Gruden wasn't as wildly popular behind the scenes as his reputation would suggest—the fact remains they are the only team in the league to win division titles the last two years.

Al Davis promoted Callahan from offensive line coach because the players like and respect him and because he assures them of maintaining the continuity a playoff team deserves. Callahan followed Gruden to Oakland from Philadelphia. He knows the way Gruden operated as a coach and psychologist. Those who know Callahan best insist that he was the best choice for the job under the circumstances.

Callahan has his work cut out. The Raiders were sailing along in smooth water with a 10-3 record and ran into a hurricane that caused them to lose their last three regular-season games. Talk about backing into the playoffs.

Interestingly, the Raiders didn't lose a game by more than seven points. Four of the losses were by three or fewer points. The three-game collapse at the end included games lost by three, six and two points. But they bounced back quickly in the playoffs, blasting the Jets, but losing 16-13 in overtime in the New England snowstorm.

The Raiders are an old team, especially on offense. That's why Davis engineered the deal that sent Gruden to Tampa Bay for two No. 1 and two No. 2 picks spread over three years.

### DEFENSE

Davis may be getting older, but he knows his



Tim Brown recorded his ninth-straight 1,000-yard receiving season in 2001.

team needs to get younger. And he hit the jackpot in the first round of the draft, getting two players who should start from Day One on a defense that ranked 18th, including 22nd against the run and ninth against the pass.

Cornerback Phillip Buchanon, rated No. 2 at his position entering the draft, is a Raider because Davis made shrewd moves to get into position to select the underclassman from Miami's national championship team. Buchanon is also a dynamite punt returner, which means aging Pro Bowl receiver Tim Brown and cornerback Charles Woodson won't have to share that responsibility again.

The other first-round pick was Northwestern outside linebacker Napoleon Harris, the best linebacking prospect in the draft. Not only is Harris an outstanding linebacker, but he can drop down and rush, which is something he did as a senior last season.

The Raiders always have enough room for another pass rusher. Although they had 41 sacks, end Regan Upshaw was the leader with seven. Fifteen players recorded sacks.

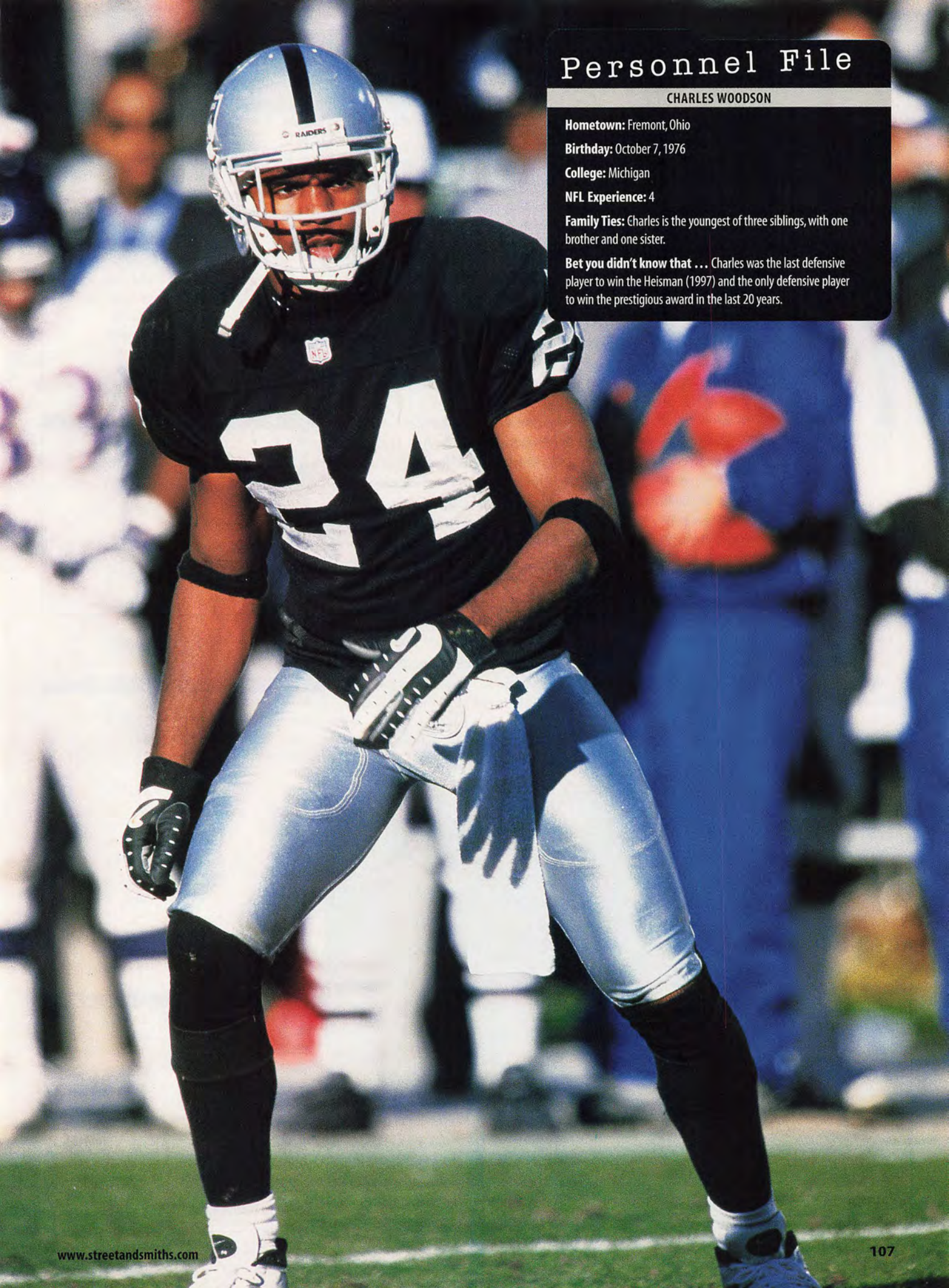
Two years ago, the Raiders may have had the second-best pair of defensive tackles behind Baltimore. But Darrell Russell has been suspended again, and Grady Jackson signed with New Orleans. Now Rod Coleman, second on the team

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	335.1	7	TOTAL DEFENSE	316.9	18
RUSHING	103.4	24	AGAINST RUSH	124.3	22
PASSING	231.7	4	AGAINST PASS	192.7	9
SCORING	399	4	PTS. ALLOWED	327	19
PUNT RETURNS	11.7	6	INTERCEPTIONS	17	16
KICK RETURNS	23.1	8	SACKS	41	15
RED ZONE TD %	55.9	4	TURNOVER DIFF.	-1	16T







## Personnel File

CHARLES WOODSON

**Hometown:** Fremont, Ohio

**Birthday:** October 7, 1976

**College:** Michigan

**NFL Experience:** 4

**Family Ties:** Charles is the youngest of three siblings, with one brother and one sister.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Charles was the last defensive player to win the Heisman (1997) and the only defensive player to win the prestigious award in the last 20 years.





Future Hall-of-Fame wide receiver Jerry Rice made his 25th postseason appearance last season.

with six sacks, and John Parrella, who bolted San Diego to move north to the bay, have to do a reasonable impersonation of Russell and Jackson two years ago. At end, Upshaw is flanked by Tony Bryant.

Raider fans can't wait to see Bill Romanowski in silver and black. When he played for arch-rival Denver, he was one of the better outside linebackers around, but the mere mention of his name caused Raider fans to drip venom. Now he's one of them.

Harris, the nice kid from Northwestern, will undergo a personality transplant to fit in with the Raiders. He's a splendid talent who should be a

candidate for NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year. Harris and Romanowski will be nifty bookends around veteran middle linebacker Greg Biekert, who's a solid but underrated player and a dynamic team leader.

The Raiders' best player on either side of the ball is Woodson, who gutted it out last season with a toe injury that would have sidelined a lot of other players. Woodson is a classic shut-down corner. He's got veteran Eric Allen and the rookie, Buchanan, who could be destined for greatness, on the other side.

Like Woodson and Buchanan, free safety Derrick Gibson was a No. 1 pick. This is the season in which Gibson should step up his game a level and become a big-time player.

## OFFENSE

Something the Raiders are going to have to do better this season is to stop the run. That's why they have new defensive tackles. But they're also going to have the run the ball more effectively than last season when they ranked 24th.

In 2000, when they fell one step short of the Super Bowl by losing to Baltimore, the Raiders led the league in rushing. They dropped 23 spots last season after bringing Charlie Garner on board. He rushed for 839 yards. The difference was Tyrone Wheatley, who went from 1,000-yard rusher to 276-yard rusher.

Callahan is demanding better production from the running game. If he's going to get it, the offensive line will have to lead the way because 103.4 yards a game just won't cut it.

Tackles Lincoln Kennedy and Barry Sims, guards Mo Collins and Frank Middleton and

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 10, Lost 6

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 27-24	at Kansas City
09/23	L 15-18	at Miami
09/30	W 38-14	Seattle
10/07	W 28-21	Dallas
10/14	W 23-18	at Indianapolis
10/28	W 20-10	at Philadelphia
11/05	W 38-28	Denver
11/11	L 27-34	at Seattle
11/18	W 34-24	San Diego
11/25	W 28-10	at N.Y. Giants
12/02	L 31-34	at Arizona
12/09	W 28-26	Kansas City
12/15	W 13-6	at San Diego
12/22	L 10-13	Tennessee
12/30	L 17-23	at Denver
01/06	L 22-24	N.Y. Jets

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Garner	211	839	4.0	38	1
Wheatley	88	276	3.1	22	5
Gannon	63	231	3.7	17	2
Crockett	57	145	2.5	10	6
Jordan	13	59	4.5	37	0
Kirby	10	49	4.9	20	0
Brown	4	39	9.8	19	0
Porter	2	13	6.5	7	0
Lechler	1	2	2.0	2	0
Tuiasosopo	1	1	1.0	1	0

Team	450	1654	3.7	38	14
Opponents	433	1988	4.6	88t	17

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Brown	91	1165	12.8	46	9
Rice	83	1139	13.7	40	9
Garner	72	578	8.0	27	2
R. Williams	33	298	9.0	49	3
Porter	19	220	11.6	21	0
Ritchie	19	154	8.1	17	2
J. Bringham	12	85	7.1	17	1
Wheatley	12	61	5.1	11	1
Jordan	9	63	7.0	19	0
Kirby	9	62	6.9	9	0
Jett	2	19	9.5	10	0
Crockett	2	10	5.0	8	0
Dunn	1	8	8.0	8	0

Team	364	3862	10.6	49	27
Opponents	290	3287	11.3	67t	16

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Gannon	549	361	3828	27	9
Tuiasosopo	4	3	34	0	0
Team	553	364	3862	27	9
Opponents	528	290	3287	16	17

## SACKS

Upshaw 7.0, Coleman 6.0, Bryant 5.0, Jackson 4.0, Biekert 3.0, Thomas 3.0, Russell 2.5, Smith 2.5, Cooper 2.0, Woodson 2.0, Alexander 1.0, Dorsett 1.0, Taves 1.0, Armstrong 0.5, Harris 0.5

Raiders 41.0, Opponents 27.0

# RAIDERS



center Barret Robbins are good, but they'll miss guard Steve Wisniewski. He retired for the second time. He was talked out of it the first time. Even a hefty raise couldn't get Wisniewski to change his mind.

The Raiders' offensive success relies almost exclusively on the passing game. Quarterback Rich Gannon, a huge Gruden fan, is coming off his best season with 3,828 yards passing, a .658 completion percentage, 27 touchdowns, nine interceptions and a 95.5 passer rating.

Gannon (36) and receivers Jerry Rice (39) and Brown (36) form the oldest threesome in the league. Many younger receivers only dream about being as good as Rice and Brown were last season. Brown had 91 catches for 1,165 yards and nine touchdowns. Rice had 83 receptions for 1,139 yards and nine touchdowns.

Because Gannon, Rice and Brown are in the twilight of their careers, the Raiders are gearing up to make it three consecutive division crowns, because time could be running out.

### SPECIAL TEAMS

One player who has to get his act together and become more consistent is kicker Sebastian Janikowski, who's either injured or getting in trouble. He was having his best season before a late-season slump contributed to the three-game skid. He finished 23-for-28 on field goals with 111 points.

Shane Lechler is one of the NFL's top punters. He averaged 46.2 yards, including a 35.6 net with 12 touchbacks and 23 kicks inside the 20. He must improve on his number of touchbacks.

Oakland's return teams were good enough, but punt coverage was horrible (14.8-yard average), and kickoff coverage (22.1) could have been better. ■

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	SEATTLE	4:15
September 15	at Pittsburgh	8:30
September 22	OPEN DATE	
September 29	TENNESSEE	4:15
October 6	at Buffalo	1:00
October 13	at St. Louis	4:15
October 20	SAN DIEGO	4:05
October 27	at Kansas City	1:00
November 3	SAN FRANCISCO	4:15
November 11	at Denver	9:00
November 17	NEW ENGLAND	8:30
November 24	at Arizona	4:05
December 2	NY JETS	9:00
December 8	at San Diego	4:15
December 15	at Miami	1:00
December 22	DENVER	4:15
December 28	KANSAS CITY	5:00

All times Eastern

## OAKLAND RAIDERS

Bill Callahan, head coach

Fred Biletnikoff, wide receivers; Chuck Bresnahan, defensive coordinator; Willie Brown, squad development; Jay Norvell, tight ends; Bob Casullo, special teams; Garrett Gionmont, strength and conditioning; Don Martin, quality control/defense; Skip Peete, running backs; Mike Waulfe, defensive line; Ron Lynn, defensive backs; John Morton, offensive assistant; Aaron Kromer, assistant offensive line; Jim Harbaugh, offensive assistant; Marc Trestman, senior assistant

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
12	Gannon, Rich	QB	6-3	210	12/20/1965	13	Delaware
14	Hoying, Bobby	QB	6-3	220	09/20/1972	5	Ohio State
3	Mirer, Rick	QB	6-3	212	03/19/1970	7	Notre Dame
8	Tuiasosopo, Marques	QB	6-1	220	03/22/1979	1	Washington

#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
77	Ashmore, Darryl	G	6-7	310	11/01/1969	9	Northwestern
79	Collins, Mo	T	6-4	325	09/22/1976	4	Florida
68	Graham, Aaron	C	6-4	301	05/22/1973	5	Nebraska
72	Kennedy, Lincoln	T	6-6	350	02/12/1971	9	Washington
73	Middleton, Frank	G	6-4	330	10/25/1974	5	Arizona
70	Myles, Toby	T	6-5	320	07/23/1975	2	Jackson State
63	Robbins, Barret	C	6-3	320	08/26/1973	7	Texas Christian
65	Sims, Barry	T	6-5	300	12/01/1974	3	Utah State
70	Slaughter, Chad	T	6-7	320	06/04/1978	0	Alcorn State
74	Stinchcomb, Matt	T	6-6	310	06/03/1977	2	Georgia
62	Treu, Adam	C	6-5	300	06/24/1974	5	Nebraska

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
32	Crockett, Zack	RB	6-2	240	12/02/1972	7	Florida State
25	Garner, Charlie	RB	5-10	190	02/13/1972	8	Tennessee
34	Hill, Madre	RB	5-11	199	01/02/1976	1	Arkansas
28	Jordan, Randy	RB	5-11	220	06/06/1970	8	North Carolina
42	Kirby, Terry	RB	6-1	225	01/20/1970	9	Virginia
40	Ritchie, Jon	RB	6-1	250	09/04/1974	4	Stanford
47	Wheatley, Tyrone	RB	6-0	235	01/19/1972	7	Michigan
34	Williams, Jermaine	RB	5-11	245	08/14/1973	4	Houston

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
84	Barlow, Reggie	WR	6-0	190	01/22/1973	5	Alabama State
86	Bjornson, Eric	TE	6-4	240	12/15/1971	6	Washington
87	Brigham, Jeremy	TE	6-6	255	03/22/1975	4	Washington
81	Brown, Tim	WR	6-0	195	07/22/1966	14	Notre Dame
89	Fulcher, Mondriel	TE	6-3	250	10/15/1976	2	Miami (FL)
82	Jett, James	WR	5-10	170	12/28/1970	9	West Virginia
83	Knight, Marcus	WR	6-1	180	06/19/1978	1	Michigan
84	Porter, Jerry	WR	6-2	220	07/14/1978	2	West Virginia
80	Rice, Jerry	WR	6-2	195	10/13/1962	17	Mississippi Valley
86	Williams, Roland	TE	6-5	255	04/27/1975	4	Syracuse

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
93	Armstrong, Trace	DE	6-4	270	10/05/1965	13	Florida
94	Bryant, Tony	DE	6-6	275	09/03/1976	3	Florida State
57	Coleman, Roderick	DT	6-2	285	08/16/1976	3	East Carolina
75	Cooper, Chris	DT	6-5	275	12/27/1977	1	Nebraska-Omaha
95	Grant, DeLawrence	DE	6-3	280	11/18/1979	1	Oregon State
92	Ioane, Junior	DT	6-4	320	07/21/1977	1	Arizona State
98	Mohring, Mike	DT	6-5	295	03/22/1974	5	Pittsburgh
97	Parrella, John	DT	6-3	305	11/22/1969	9	Nebraska
94	Staat, Jeremy	DE	6-5	300	10/10/1976	3	Arizona State
99	Taves, Josh	DE	6-7	285	05/13/1972	3	Northeastern
91	Upshaw, Regan	DE	6-4	260	08/12/1975	6	California

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
21	Allen, Eric	CB	5-10	190	11/22/1965	14	Arizona State
30	Banks, Antonio	S	5-10	204	03/12/1973	3	Virginia Tech
27	Branch, Calvin	S	5-11	195	05/08/1974	4	Colorado State
33	Dorsett, Anthony	S	5-11	205	09/14/1973	6	Pittsburgh
26	Gibson, Derrick	S	6-2	215	03/22/1979	1	Florida State
37	Harris, Johnnie	S	6-2	210	08/21/1972	3	Mississippi State
20	James, Tory	CB	6-2	190	05/18/1973	5	LSU
39	Jennings, Brandon	S	6-0	190	07/15/1978	2	Texas A&M
41	Johnson, Eric	CB	6-0	210	04/30/1976	2	Nebraska
25	Love, Clarence	CB	5-10	181	06/16/1976	2	Toledo
31	Perryman, Raymond	S	6-0	204	11/27/1978	0	Northern Arizona
23	Pope, Marquez	S	5-11	205	10/29/1970	10	Fresno State
22	Shaw, Terrance	CB	5-11	200	11/11/1973	7	Stephen F. Austin
24	Woodson, Charles	CB	6-1	205	10/07/1976	4	Michigan

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
58	Alexander, Elijah	LB	6-2	235	08/02/1970	9	Kansas State
50	Barton, Eric	LB	6-2	245	09/29/1977	3	Maryland
54	Biekert, Greg	LB	6-2	255	03/14/1969	9	Colorado
55	Brooks, Bobby	LB	6-2	240	03/03/1976	2	Fresno State
51	Dixon, Gerald	LB	6-3	250	06/20/1969	9	South Carolina
53	Romanowski, Bill	LB	6-4	245	04/02/1966	14	Boston College
53	Smith, Travian	LB	6-4	240	08/26/1975	4	Oklahoma
59	Thomas, William	LB	6-2	225	08/13/1968	11	Texas A&M

#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
3	Daluiso, Brad	K	6-2	210	12/31/1967	11	UCLA
11	Janikowski, Sebastian	K	6-1	255	03/02/1978	2	Florida State
9	Lechler, Shane	P	6-2	225	08/07/1976	2	Texas A&M

### 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	17	Buchanan, Phillip	CB	5-9	186	09/19/1980	Miami (FL)
1	23	Harris, Napoleon	LB	6-2	255	02/25/1979	Northwestern
2	21	Walker, Langston	T	6-8	343	09/03/1979	California
2	23	Jolley, Doug	TE	6-4	251	01/02/1979	Brigham Young
5	12	Coleman, Kenyon	DE	6-5	284	04/10/1979	UCLA
6	17	Nash, DeRodrick	S	6-3	213	03/11/1979	Albany State (GA)
6	25	Ned, Larry	RB	5-11	219	08/23/1978	San Diego State
7	24	Curry, Ronald	QB	6-3	220	05/28/1979	North Carolina



## After a one-year, \$10 million Redskins gig, Schottenheimer gets a summer home in San Diego—and maybe a contender.

**A**fter winning one game in 2000 and getting the first pick in the draft, General Manager John Butler went through a wheeling-and-dealing binge that helped turn around this franchise. The Chargers exploded out of the blocks and won their first three games last season, captivating San Diego and enthraling fans around the country.

But then the old Chargers seemed to seep back in. They were 5-3 at the midway point but lost their last eight to get Mike Riley fired and Marty Schottenheimer hired. The way the Chargers lost was so excruciating it caused hair to fall out and fingers to be bitten into the quick.

Seven of their 11 defeats were by five or fewer points, including five by three points. Playing close only counts in horseshoes, so it wasn't enough to save the popular Riley, who went from head coach in San Diego to secondary coach in New Orleans.

Schottenheimer left ESPN for Washington and made \$10 million for being fired after compiling an 8-8 record for owner Daniel Snyder. Schottenheimer is the kind of disciplined, experienced, playoff-proven coach the Chargers need to continue their transformation from pretender to contender.

Although Schottenheimer loves to run the ball to control the clock and play sound defense and special teams, no one has to tell him that he's taking over a team that had an interesting statistic. Although the Chargers were six games under .500, they scored more points (332) than they allowed (321).

### OFFENSE

Schottenheimer declared the starting quarterback job open, which could cause problems. Doug Flutie, who turns 40 in October, threw for 3,464 yards, 15 touchdowns and 18 interceptions.

Wide receiver Curtis Conway (left) put together a career year in 2001 with 1,125 receiving yards.



Doug Flutie's 3,464 yards passing last season were the most by a Charger quarterback since Dan Fouts threw for 3,638 in 1985.

He's not exactly a team player when he's not starting. Just ask Rob Johnson, his former teammate at Buffalo.

Many close to the Chargers believe Drew Brees will beat out Flutie if it's a fair fight. Brees made one appearance as a rookie, and it was very impressive. He came off the bench to complete 15 of 27 passes for 221 yards and a touchdown. He put the Chargers in position to beat the Chiefs, but the defense blew the game. He didn't play again.

No matter who plays quarterback, the Chargers know LaDainian Tomlinson will be at running back. He rushed for 1,236 yards and 10 touchdowns as a rookie. He also caught 59 passes.

The offensive line received a major infusion of talent with guard Toniou Fonoti, a second-round pick who had been projected as a first-round selection, and center Corey Raymer, a free agent from Washington. The line should improve at run blocking, which is what Schottenheimer demands the most.

Schottenheimer also has a new tight end in Stephen Alexander, who missed much of last season with Washington because of injuries. Alexander better stay healthy and contribute to

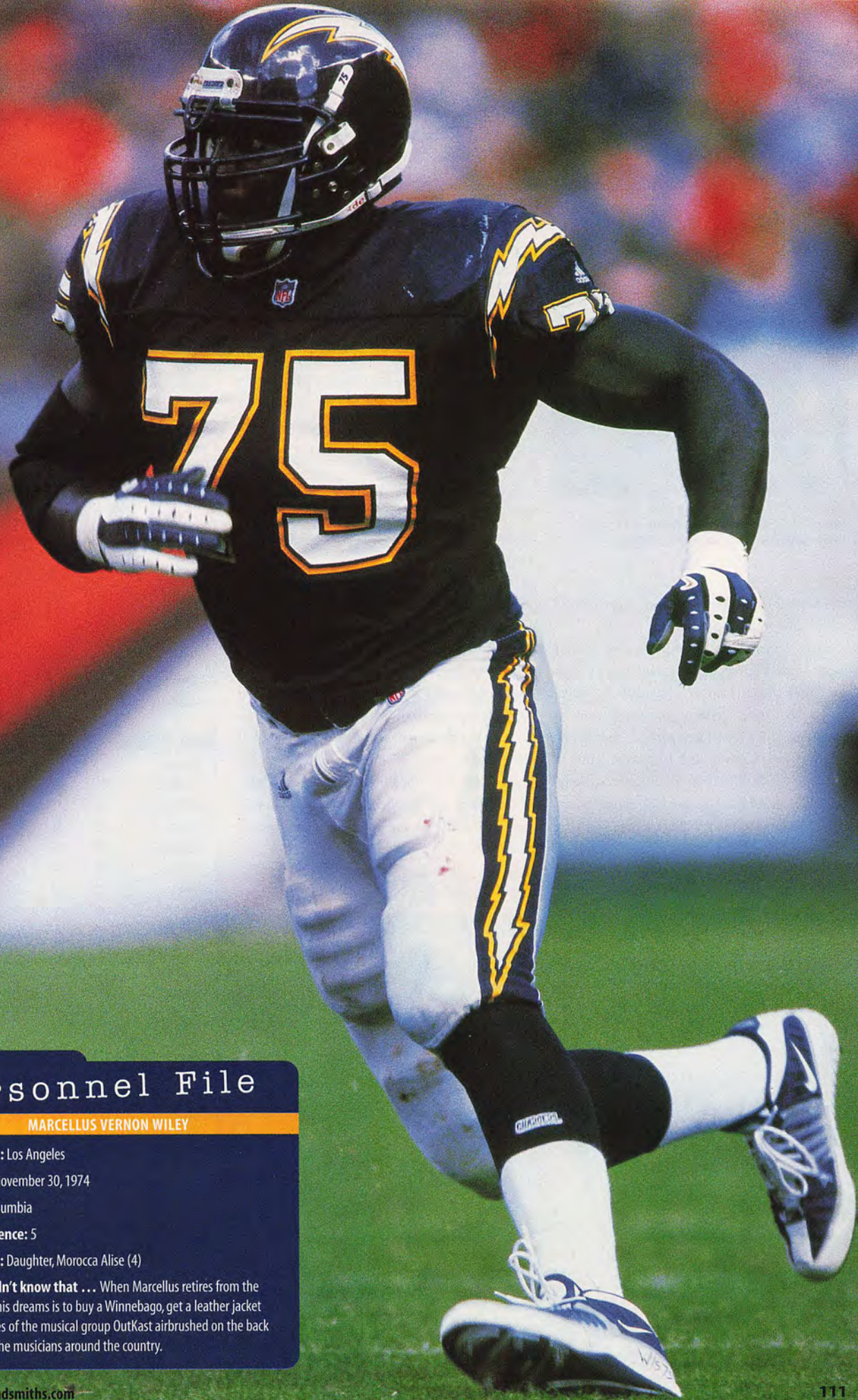


## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	325.0	11	TOTAL DEFENSE	306.5	11
RUSHING	105.9	20	AGAINST RUSH	94.0	7
PASSING	219.1	11	AGAINST PASS	212.5	20
SCORING	332	14	PTS. ALLOWED	321	16T
PUNT RETURNS	9.4	16	INTERCEPTIONS	19	11
KICK RETURNS	26.0	1	SACKS	41	16
RED ZONE TD %	37.7	30	TURNOVER DIFF.	+2	13T







## Personnel File

MARCELLUS VERNON WILEY

**Hometown:** Los Angeles

**Birthday:** November 30, 1974

**College:** Columbia

**NFL Experience:** 5

**Family Ties:** Daughter, Morocco Alise (4)

**Bet you didn't know that ...** When Marcellus retires from the NFL, one of his dreams is to buy a Winnebago, get a leather jacket with sketches of the musical group OutKast airbrushed on the back and follow the musicians around the country.





Linebacker Junior Seau made his 11th straight appearance in the Pro Bowl last season, the second-highest string by an NFL player since 1970.

offset the loss of Freddie Jones, who had 35 catches and four touchdowns.

The Chargers need to improve their passing game. Curtis Conway caught a team-high 71 passes for 1,125 yards (15.8 average) and six touchdowns. No other wideout had more than 52 receptions, and Jeff Graham's gone. Of the top four receivers, only Conway and Tomlinson return.

Tim Dwight, Mr. All-Purpose, received a long-term extension and a \$5 million signing bonus. The Chargers want to get their money's worth, so expect Dwight to start opposite Conway and get

the ball every way possible to take advantage of his speed, quickness and elusiveness.

Expect rookie Reche Caldwell, a second-round pick, to contribute right away. He's a major talent who could make an impact as a rookie.

## DEFENSE

Like the offense, the defense ranked 11th. The Chargers were seventh against the run and 20th against the pass.

The defense added three important players—veteran tackle Jason Fisk, veteran outside linebacker Donnie Edwards and rookie cornerback Quentin Jammer. Jammer, the fifth player selected in the draft, is a shut-down corner who'll cover the opponent's best receiver all over the field.

The other corner, Ryan McNeil, intercepted a team-high eight passes. No other player intercepted more than two.

Strong safety Rodney Harrison remains one of the toughest and most intimidating defensive backs in the league. Free safety Rogers Beckett is starting to emerge.

The secondary backs up quality linebackers, especially Edwards and Junior Seau on the outside. Edwards, who had been a Charger nemesis when he played for the Chiefs, will be considered a Benedict Arnold by Kansas City fans. But they should remember it was the Chiefs who waived Edwards because of the salary cap.

Seau, of course, remains the heart and soul of the Chargers. He's 33 and playing in his 13th season, but his motor still runs 24 hours a day.

Outside linebacker Ben Leber, a third-round pick, has great size and good speed and should provide depth as a rookie.

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 5, Lost 11

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 30-3	Washington
09/23	W 32-21	at Dallas
09/30	W 28-14	Cincinnati
10/07	L 16-20	at Cleveland
10/14	L 26-29	at New England
10/21	W 27-10	Denver
10/28	W 27-24	Buffalo
11/04	L 20-25	Kansas City
11/11	L 16-26	at Denver
11/18	L 24-34	at Oakland
11/25	L 17-20	Arizona
12/02	L 10-13	at Seattle
12/09	L 14-24	at Philadelphia
12/15	L 6-13	Oakland
12/23	L 17-20	at Kansas City
12/30	L 22-25	Seattle

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Tomlinson	339	1236	3.6	54	10
Flutie	53	192	3.6	16	1
Conway	7	116	16.6	67	1
Fletcher	29	107	3.7	16	0
Dwight	2	24	12.0	16	1
Brees	2	18	9.0	13	0
McCrary	2	3	1.5	2	0
Team	435	1695	3.9	67t	13
Opponents	449	1504	3.3	26	10

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Conway	71	1125	15.8	72	6
Tomlinson	59	367	6.2	27	0
J. Graham	52	811	15.6	61	5
F. Jones	35	388	11.1	34	4
Dwight	25	406	16.2	78	0
Fletcher	23	184	8.0	27	0
Gaylor	14	217	15.5	31	0
McCrary	13	71	5.5	12	0
Heiden	8	55	6.9	16	1
R. Jones	5	29	5.8	11	0
Batteaux	3	25	8.3	17	0
Harris	1	7	7.0	7	0
Team	309	3685	11.9	78	16
Opponents	317	3618	11.4	80t	24

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Flutie	521	294	3464	15	18
Brees	27	15	221	1	0
Team	548	309	3685	16	18
Opponents	535	317	3618	24	19

## SACKS

Wiley 13.0, Johnson 9.5, Harrison 3.5, Carson 3.0, Dixon 2.0, Parrella 2.0, Dingle 1.0, Fontenot 1.0, Harrison 1.0, Moreno 1.0, Rogers 1.0, Ruff 1.0, Seau 1.0, Tomlinson 1.0

Chargers 41.0, Opponents 27.0





LaDainian Tomlinson lived up to all expectations as a Charger rookie, rushing for 1,236 yards, the second-highest season total in team history.

The Chargers have a top-notch line led by end Marcellus Wiley, who registered 13 sacks in his first season in San Diego. The other end, Raylee Johnson, was second with 9.5. Tackle John Parrella, a mainstay for years, signed with the Raiders, and he'll be replaced by Jason Fisk, a refugee from Tennessee who excels against the run. The other tackle is Jamal Williams, who gets better every season.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

The Chargers have a great return game, but the coverage must improve. Ronney Jenkins averaged 26.6 yards on kickoff returns and scored two touchdowns. Tim Dwight averaged 11.3 on punt returns and scored one touchdown.

Punter Darren Bennett, 37, continues to be one of the best in the league. He had a net average of 36.9 yards with only four touchbacks, but 25 of his punts were inside the 20. That's remarkable accuracy.

The kicking game must improve. Wade Richey connected on only 21 of 32 field goal attempts and scored 89 points. Steve Christie, who had his heyday in Buffalo, kicked nine of 11.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Cincinnati	1:00
September 15	HOUSTON	4:15
September 22	at Arizona	4:05
September 29	NEW ENGLAND	4:15
October 6	at Denver	4:05
October 13	KANSAS CITY	4:15
October 20	at Oakland	4:05
October 27	OPEN DATE	
November 3	NY JETS	4:05
November 11	at St. Louis	1:00
November 17	SAN FRANCISCO	4:05
October 24	at Miami	1:00
December 1	DENVER	4:05
December 8	OAKLAND	4:15
December 15	at Buffalo	1:00
December 22	at Kansas City	1:00
December 29	SEATTLE	4:15

All times Eastern

## SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Marty Schottenheimer, head coach

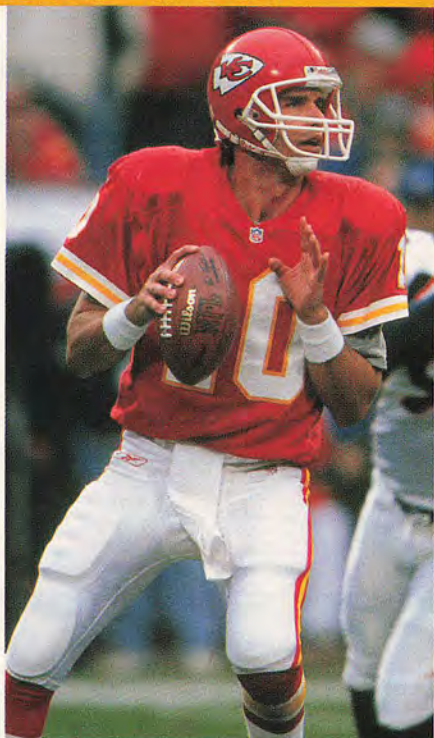
Dale Lindsey, defensive coordinator; Hudson Houck, offensive line; Tim Brewster, tight ends; Dave Redding, strength and conditioning; John Pagano, defensive asst./quality control; Wayne Nunnely, defensive line; Joe Pascale, special projects; Jerry Holmes, defensive backs; Steve Crosby, special teams; James Lofton, wide receivers; Greg Manusky, linebackers; Clarence Shelmon, running backs; Brian Schottenheimer, quarterbacks; Cam Cameron, offensive coordinator; Bill Arnsparger, associate head coach-defense; Pete Carmichael, Jr., offensive assistant/quality control

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
9	Brees, Drew	QB	6-0	221	01/15/1979	1	Purdue
15	Dickenson, Dave	QB	5-11	185	01/11/1973	0	Montana
7	Flutie, Doug	QB	5-10	180	10/23/1962	8	Boston College
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
50	Binn, David	C	6-3	245	02/06/1972	8	California
69	Ellis, Edward	T	6-7	325	10/13/1975	5	Buffalo
67	Fortin, Roman	C	6-5	297	02/26/1967	10	San Diego State
73	Gorin, Brandon	T	6-6	304	07/17/1978	0	Purdue
64	Jacox, Kendyl	C	6-2	330	06/10/1975	4	Kansas State
61	Keathley, Michael	T	6-4	296	03/09/1978	1	Texas Christian
77	McIntosh, Damion	T	6-4	325	03/25/1977	2	Kansas State
70	Parker, Vaughn	T	6-3	300	06/05/1971	8	UCLA
52	Raymer, Cory	C	6-3	300	03/03/1973	6	Wisconsin
74	Roundtree, Raleigh	G	6-4	295	08/31/1975	4	South Carolina State
68	Silvers, Elliot	T	6-7	320	02/19/1978	1	Washington
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
41	Fletcher, Terrell	RB	5-8	196	09/14/1973	7	Wisconsin
28	Jenkins, Ronney	RB	5-11	188	05/25/1977	2	Northern Arizona
44	McCrary, Fred	RB	6-0	235	09/19/1972	5	Mississippi State
21	Tomlinson, LaDainian	RB	5-10	221	06/23/1979	1	Texas Christian
48	Witherspoon, Terry	RB	5-11	250	08/22/1977	1	Clemson
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
80	Alexander, Stephen	TE	6-4	246	11/07/1975	4	Oklahoma
86	Batteaux, Patrick	WR	6-0	195	04/18/1978	1	Texas Christian
80	Conway, Curtis	WR	6-1	196	03/13/1971	9	Southern California
82	Gaylor, Trevor	WR	6-3	195	11/03/1977	2	Miami (OH)
83	Heiden, Steve	TE	6-5	270	09/21/1976	3	South Dakota State
6	Turner, Nate	WR	6-3	210	05/26/1978	1	UNLV
84	Whitman, Josh	TE	6-4	245	08/05/1978	1	Illinois
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
96	Carson, Leonardo	DT	6-2	285	02/11/1977	2	Auburn
90	Dingle, Adrian	DE	6-3	272	06/25/1977	3	Clemson
97	Fisk, Jason	DT	6-3	295	09/04/1972	7	Stanford
95	Fontenot, Al	DE	6-4	287	09/17/1970	9	Baylor
99	Johnson, Raylee	DE	6-3	272	06/01/1970	8	Arkansas
75	Wiley, Marcellus	DE	6-4	275	11/30/1974	5	Columbia
76	Williams, Jamal	DT	6-3	305	04/28/1976	4	Oklahoma State
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
42	Beckett, Rogers	S	6-3	205	01/31/1977	2	Marshall
30	Carswell, Robert	S	5-11	215	10/26/1978	1	Clemson
27	Cody, Tay	CB	5-9	180	10/06/1977	1	Florida State
22	Harrison, Lloyd	CB	5-11	189	06/21/1977	2	North Carolina State
37	Harrison, Rodney	S	6-1	218	12/15/1972	8	Western Illinois
47	McNeil, Ryan	CB	6-2	192	10/04/1970	9	Miami (FL)
25	Molden, Alex	CB	5-10	190	08/04/1973	6	Oregon
31	Perry, Jason	S	6-0	200	08/01/1976	3	North Carolina State
33	Sanchez, Davis	CB	5-10	190	08/07/1974	1	Oregon
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
59	Edwards, Donnie	LB	6-2	227	04/06/1973	6	UCLA
53	Humphrey, Deon	LB	6-3	240	05/07/1976	2	Florida State
57	Moreno, Zeke	LB	6-2	246	10/10/1978	1	Southern California
93	Polk, Carlos	LB	6-2	250	02/22/1977	1	Nebraska
59	Rogers, Sam	LB	6-3	245	05/30/1970	8	Colorado
56	Ruff, Orlando	LB	6-3	247	09/28/1976	3	Furman
55	Seau, Junior	LB	6-3	250	01/19/1969	12	Southern California
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Bennett, Darren	P	6-5	235	01/09/1965	7	None
8	Christie, Steve	K	6-0	195	11/13/1967	12	William & Mary
5	Richey, Wade	K	6-3	205	05/19/1976	4	LSU

## 2002 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	5	Jammer, Quentin	CB	5-11	204	06/19/1979	Texas
2	7	Fonoti, Toniu	G	6-3	350	11/26/1981	Nebraska
2	16	Caldwell, Reche	WR	5-11	194	03/28/1979	Florida
3	6	Leber, Ben	LB	6-3	244	12/07/1978	Kansas State
4	5	Peelle, Justin	TE	6-4	255	03/15/1979	Oregon
5	7	Charles, Terry	WR	6-3	207	07/08/1979	Portland State
6	6	Anderle, Matt	T	6-6	327	02/14/1979	Minnesota
7	5	Burford, Seth	QB	6-3	241	03/11/1979	Cal Poly





## Football's 'Dickie V' has designs on another turnaround—and Chiefs are making progress.

**D**ick Vermeil's re-entrance into the NFL was a startling contrast to his exit after the 1999 season, when he guided St. Louis to a victory in Super Bowl XXXIV. After a one-year hiatus, Vermeil reappeared across the state in Kansas City, where he guided the Chiefs to a 6-10 record.

Vermeil brought some of his posse to Kansas City from St. Louis. They continue to remind frustrated Chiefs fans that St. Louis wasn't rebuilt in a day. As they like to point out, the Rams went from 4-12 to a championship.

The Chiefs are full of optimism going into the season, and for good reason. After limping out of the gate with an 0-2 start and standing 1-6 after seven games, they went 5-4 the rest of the way, including 3-1 over the last four. They suffered five losses by seven or fewer points. They came within three points of victory on four occasions.

### OFFENSE

The Chiefs finished fifth in offense, sixth in rushing and fifth in passing. They were 23rd in defense, 27th against the run and 14th against the pass.

Vermeil discovered a diamond amid the coal when he signed running back Priest Holmes, a reserve at Baltimore who had done nothing to distinguish himself at the University of Texas. Holmes got the heavy-duty work, and all he did

was generate a league-leading 1,555 yards rushing and 2,169 yards from scrimmage.

Holmes, who caught 62 passes and scored 10 touchdowns, was so excited about going to the Pro Bowl for the first time and earning a \$1 million bonus that he invited the team to join him. Fortunately, for his bank account, not everyone took him up on the offer.

The question is whether Holmes can repeat his career year. If he can, the Chiefs have a legitimate shot at the playoffs.

Holmes' lead blocker, fullback Tony Richardson, paid big dividends the few times he got the ball. Richardson got 66 carries and averaged only 2.9 yards, but when he got close to the goal line, he produced. Richardson scored seven touchdowns, giving the starting backfield 17 touchdowns, including 15 rushing. That's more rushing touchdowns than 17 teams had.

The problem on offense was quarterback Trent Green's penchant for throwing to the wrong jersey. Vermeil surrendered a first-round pick to St. Louis to acquire Green. His first season as Kansas City's starter was memorable because he threw for a franchise-record 24 interceptions, which contributed mightily to the team's minus-seven turnover ratio.

Green, whose contract expires after this season, has a bad knee that he doesn't complain about but everyone is aware of. Still, he threw for 3,783 yards and 17 touchdowns, but his passer rating was a pitiful 71.1 percent.

In fairness to Green, injuries and poor performance at receiver was a huge detriment. Derrick Alexander, the team's MVP in 2000, never did get acclimated to Vermeil's offense and was reduced to 27 catches. Sylvester Morris, a former No. 1 pick, was injured. The only receiver with more catches than Alexander was rookie Snoop Minnis (33 receptions for 511 yards and one touchdown).

The Chiefs were so desperate during the season they signed Eddie Kennison, who had been waived and ripped in Denver. Kennison actually responded positively with a 20.1-yard average on

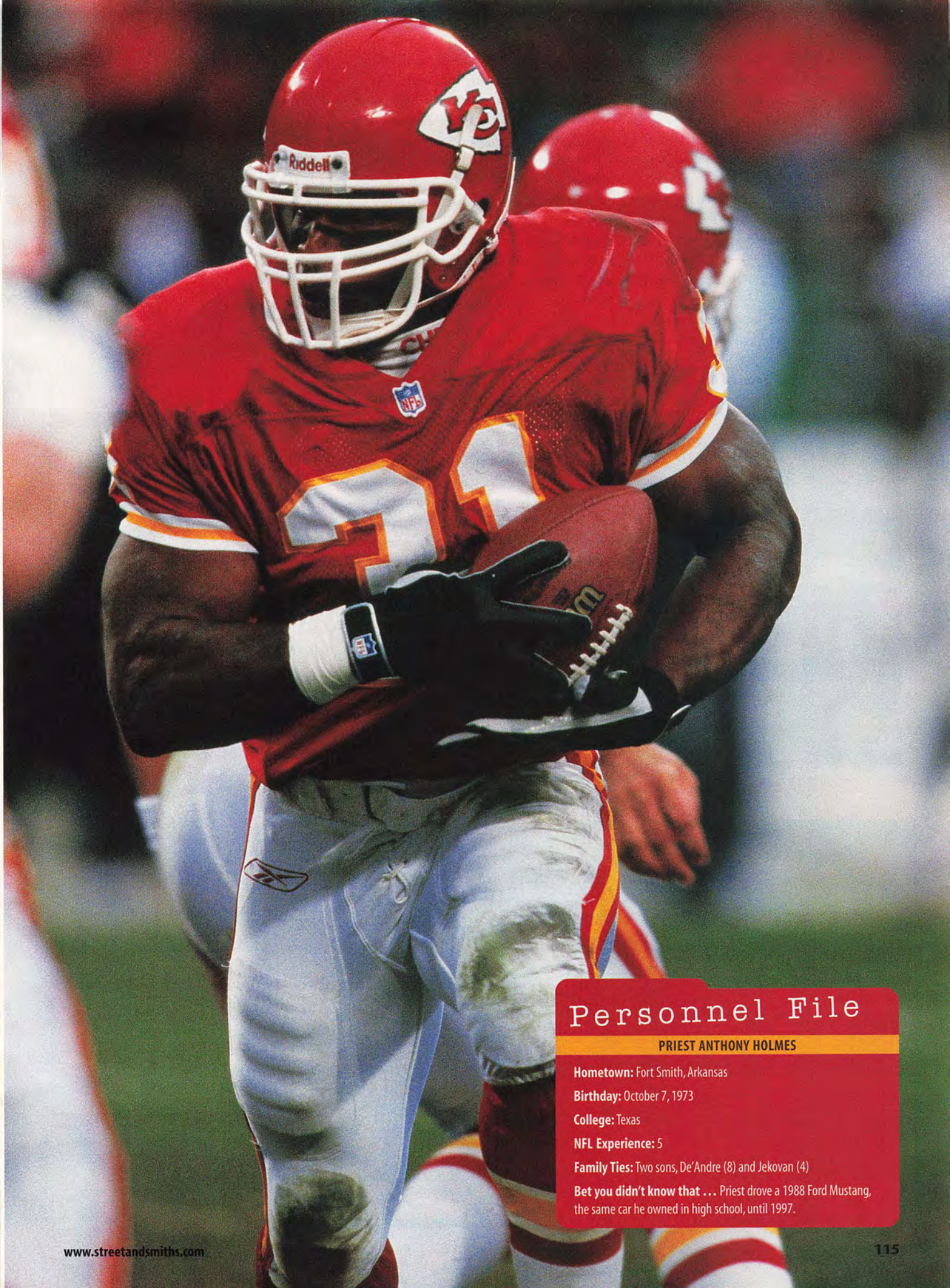
*Despite throwing for a career-best 3,783 yards, Trent Green's 2001 season was one of inconsistency. He threw 24 interceptions and 17 touchdown passes. At bottom, Kansas City fullback Tony Richardson is one of the game's best short-yardage backs. He converted seven of his nine third-and-one rushing attempts last season and registered a career-high seven TDs.*

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	354.6	5	TOTAL DEFENSE	331.5	23
RUSHING	125.5	6	AGAINST RUSH	133.8	27
PASSING	229.1	5	AGAINST PASS	197.8	14
SCORING	320	16	PTS. ALLOWED	344	23
PUNT RETURNS	7.4	29	INTERCEPTIONS	13	24
KICK RETURNS	21.2	18	SACKS	31	23
RED ZONE TD %	45.3	19T	TURNOVER DIFF.	-7	22







## Personnel File

### PRIEST ANTHONY HOLMES

**Hometown:** Fort Smith, Arkansas

**Birthday:** October 7, 1973

**College:** Texas

**NFL Experience:** 5

**Family Ties:** Two sons, De'Andre (8) and Jekovan (4)

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Priest drove a 1988 Ford Mustang, the same car he owned in high school, until 1997.



16 catches, but he's a journeyman who's been a disappointment at every stop.

To fortify the position in the offseason, the Chiefs signed Detroit free agent Johnnie Morton, who had 77 catches for 1,154 yards and four touchdowns for the league's second-worst team last season. He's a tremendous upgrade.

The best receiver, indeed the best player on the team, continues to be tight end Tony Gonzalez. He's the best pass-catching tight end in the league. He contributed 73 receptions for 917 yards and six touchdowns. No tight end stretches a defense like Gonzalez.

If Green can avoid interceptions, and the receivers avoid injuries, the passing game should be more productive.

One of the Chiefs' most prized acquisitions was offensive tackle William Roaf, who was a perennial

Pro Bowl selection with the Saints until suffering a season-ending knee injury and a season of controversy in New Orleans last season. He demanded to be traded, and the Saints shipped him to Kansas City, where he'll play left tackle.

With right tackle Victor Riley leaving the Chiefs to replace Roaf with the Saints, John Tait moves to the right side. If Roaf recovers from the knee injury, he'll be a steal. Center Casey Wiegmann and left guard Donald Willis are good enough. It seems as if Will Shields has been playing right guard for Kansas City since Harry Truman was in office, and he's still good at it.

## DEFENSE

For the Chiefs to make the kind of jump they expect, the defense has to get better, especially against the run. They tried to rectify that ongoing problem with their first two picks in the draft—defensive tackles Ryan Sims and Eddie Freeman.

Sims was the best of an outstanding group of tackles, and the Chiefs traded up to get him. Smooth move. Not only does he shut down the run, but he collapses the pocket. Freeman is another heavy load whose specialty is stopping the run. They'll combine with veterans Eric Downing and Derrick Ransom to give the Chiefs talent and depth at tackle.

The ends are Duane Clemons and Eric Hicks. The Chiefs registered only 31 sacks, with Clemons getting a team-high seven. Thirteen players had at least one sack, but no one other than Clemons

*End Eric Hicks anchored Kansas City's defensive front in his fourth season with a career-high 93 tackles and a team-leading 11 quarterback pressures.*



## PROJECTED STARTERS



**CHIEFS**

## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 6, Lost 10

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	L 24-27	Oakland
09/23	L 3-13	N.Y. Giants
09/30	W 45-13	at Washington
10/07	L 6-20	at Denver
10/14	L 17-20	Pittsburgh
10/21	L 16-24	at Arizona
10/25	L 28-35	Indianapolis
11/04	W 25-20	at San Diego
11/11	L 7-27	at N.Y. Jets
11/25	W 19-7	Seattle
11/29	L 10-23	Philadelphia
12/09	L 26-28	at Oakland
12/16	W 26-23	Denver
12/23	W 20-17	San Diego
12/30	W 30-26	at Jacksonville
01/06	L 18-21	at Seattle

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Holmes	327	1555	4.8	41	8
Richardson	66	191	2.9	19	7
Green	35	158	4.5	16	0
Cloud	7	54	7.7	16	1
Alexander	2	16	8.0	15	0
Kennison	2	13	6.5	14	0
Hall	2	10	5.0	6	0
Gonzalez	1	9	9.0	9	0
Parker	3	6	2.0	7	0
Collins	2	6	3.0	7	0

Team	448	2008	4.5	41	16
Opponents	481	2140	4.4	77t	15

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Gonzalez	73	917	12.6	36	6
Holmes	62	614	9.9	67	2
Minnis	33	511	15.5	56	1
Richardson	30	265	8.8	47	0
Alexander	27	470	17.4	46	3
Thomas	19	247	13.0	28	1
Ricks	18	252	14.0	40	1
Kennison	16	322	20.1	65	0
Parker	15	199	13.3	44	2
Dunn	4	54	13.5	28	1
J. Williams	2	11	5.5	9	0
Green	1	1	1.0	1	0

Team	300	3863	12.9	67t	17
Opponents	296	3403	11.5	49	19

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Green	523	296	3783	17	24
Collins	4	3	40	0	0
Gonzalez	1	1	40	0	0

Team	528	300	3863	17	24
Opponents	491	296	3403	19	13

**SACKS**  
Clemons 7.0, Hicks 3.5, Owens 3.0, Patton 3.0, Ransom 3.0, Edwards 2.0, Wesley 2.0, Browning 1.5, Cadrez 1.5, Downing 1.5, Bartee 1.0, Maslowski 1.0, Woods 1.0

Chiefs 31.0, Opponents 39.0



had as many as four. They need Hicks to step up and apply a lot of pressure on the quarterback.

The Chiefs lost their best line-backer, Donnie Edwards, because of the salary cap. Glenn Cadrez on the outside and Marcus Patton in the middle are journeymen who have to play better. The other starter on the outside, Lew Bush, needs to take his game to the next level. Perhaps the last two draft choices, Scott Fujita and Maurice Rodriguez, can help.

An experienced secondary is the last line of defense. The Chiefs have to improve on 13 interceptions. Twenty-four teams had more. Cornerback Eric Warfield, who led the team with four interceptions, is coming off his best season. He could develop into one of the better corners in the league. Ray Crockett is playing in his 14th season. What he's lost in speed and quickness he makes up for with savvy and knowing every trick of the trade.

Free safety Jerome Woods, a former No. 1 pick, is a big hitter. He was second on the team with three interceptions. Strong safety Greg Wesley enters his third season.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Vermeil signed Morten Andersen to replace placekicker Todd Peterson, who kicked 27 field goals in 35 attempts and scored 108 points before leaving as a free agent. Andersen, the ageless wonder, connected on 23 of 28 tries and scored 98 points for the Giants.

Dan Stryzinski needs to improve on his gross and net averages of 40.8 and 35.6 yards, respectively. He lacks strength, but he's extremely accurate, with only five touchbacks and an above-average 25 kicks inside the 20.

Dante Hall is the return specialist. He was better on kickoffs (22.5-yard average) than punts (7.3). Punt coverage was good, but kickoff coverage needs to improve for Vermeil, a coach who demands strong performance from his special teams.



Defensive end Duane Clemons led the Chiefs with seven sacks and four forced fumbles last season.

# KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

Dick Vermeil, head coach

**Terry Shea**, quarterbacks; **Billy Long**, assistant strength and conditioning; **Jason Verduzco**, offensive assistant/quality control coach; **Jeff Hurd**, strength and conditioning; **Bob Karmelowicz**, defensive line; **James Saxon**, running backs; **Charlie Joiner**, wide receivers; **Al Saunders**, assistant head coach/offensive coordinator; **Keith Rowen**, tight ends; **Greg Robinson**, defensive coordinator; **Pete Giunta**, defensive backs; **Irv Eatman**, assistant offensive line; **Frank Gansz, Jr.**, special teams; **Joe Vitt**, linebackers; **Darvin Wallis**, defensive assistant/quality control; **Carl Hairston**, defensive line; **Mike Solari**, offensive line

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
15	Collins, Todd	QB	6-4	219	11/05/1971	4	Michigan
7	Germaine, Joe	QB	6-2	220	08/11/1975	1	Ohio State
10	Green, Trent	QB	6-3	210	07/09/1970	4	Indiana

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
72	Alford, Darnell	T	6-4	328	06/11/1977	2	Boston College
69	Allotey, Victor	G	6-3	320	04/08/1975	0	Indiana
73	Jones, Willie	T	6-6	355	12/17/1975	1	Grambling
77	Roaf, William	T	6-5	312	04/18/1970	9	Louisiana Tech
68	Shields, Will	G	6-3	315	09/15/1971	9	Nebraska
70	Spears, Marcus	T	6-4	316	09/28/1971	6	Northwestern State
76	Tait, John	T	6-6	320	01/26/1975	3	Brigham Young
54	Waters, Brian	C	6-3	315	02/18/1977	2	North Texas
62	Wiegmann, Casey	C	6-2	285	07/20/1975	5	Iowa
60	Willis, Donald	G	6-3	330	07/15/1973	3	North Carolina A&T

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
23	Blaylock, Derrick	RB	5-9	200	08/23/1979	0	Stephen F. Austin
34	Cloud, Mike	RB	5-10	205	07/01/1975	3	Boston College
31	Holmes, Priest	RB	5-9	213	10/07/1973	5	Texas
49	Richardson, Tony	RB	6-1	232	12/17/1971	7	Auburn
33	Shields, Paul	RB	6-1	238	01/31/1976	2	Arizona

#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
82	Alexander, Derrick	WR	6-2	206	11/06/1971	8	Michigan
45	Baber, Billy	TE	6-3	255	01/17/1979	1	Virginia
	Capel, John	WR	5-10	177	11/27/1978	0	Florida
89	Dunn, Jason	TE	6-6	273	11/15/1973	5	Eastern Kentucky
83	Gammon, Kendall	TE	6-4	255	10/23/1968	10	Pittsburg State
88	Gonzalez, Tony	TE	6-4	248	02/27/1976	5	California
20	Hall, Dante	WR	5-8	193	09/01/1978	2	Texas A&M
11	Jones, Reggie	WR	6-0	195	05/08/1971	3	LSU
87	Kennison, Eddie	WR	6-1	190	01/20/1973	6	LSU
81	Minnis, Marvin	WR	6-1	172	02/06/1977	1	Florida State
84	Morris, Sylvester	WR	6-3	205	10/06/1977	1	Jackson State
87	Morton, Johnnie	WR	6-0	190	10/07/1971	8	Southern California
80	Parker, Larry	WR	6-1	206	07/14/1976	3	Southern California

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
96	Beisel, Monty	DE	6-3	267	08/20/1978	1	Kansas State
93	Browning, John	DT	6-4	293	09/30/1973	5	West Virginia
99	Clemons, Duane	DE	6-5	278	05/23/1974	6	California
79	Downing, Eric	DT	6-3	314	09/16/1978	1	Syracuse
98	Hicks, Eric	DE	6-6	280	06/17/1976	4	Maryland
94	Hobgood-Chittick, Nate	DT	6-3	290	11/30/1974	3	North Carolina
75	McCleary, Norris	DT	6-6	305	05/10/1977	2	East Carolina
95	Ransom, Derrick	NT	6-3	311	09/13/1976	4	Cincinnati
	Sands, Terdell	DT	6-5	301	10/31/1979	0	Chattanooga
98	Threats, Jabbar	DE	6-5	255	04/26/1975	3	Michigan State
92	Williams, Dan	DT	6-4	293	12/15/1969	7	Toledo
90	Williams, Tyrone	DT	6-4	292	10/22/1972	4	Wyoming
72	Wyman, Devin	DT	6-7	307	08/29/1973	2	Kentucky State

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
26	Allen, Taje	CB	5-11	183	11/06/1973	5	Texas
24	Bartee, William	CB	6-1	196	06/25/1977	2	Oklahoma
29	Belser, Jason	S	5-10	191	05/28/1970	10	Oklahoma
39	Crockett, Ray	CB	5-10	184	01/05/1967	13	Baylor
40	Harris, Corey	CB	5-10	191	11/28/1976	3	North Alabama
42	Harts, Shaunard	S	5-11	195	08/04/1978	1	Boise State
27	McClellion, Central	CB	5-10	195	09/15/1975	1	Ohio State
28	Stephens, Reggie	CB	5-9	200	02/21/1975	2	Rutgers
44	Warfield, Eric	CB	6-0	198	03/03/1976	4	Nebraska
25	Wesley, Greg	S	6-2	208	03/19/1976	2	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
37	West, Lyle	S	6-0	215	12/20/1976	2	San Jose State
21	Woods, Jerome	S	6-2	207	03/17/1973	6	Memphis

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
50	Atkins, Larry	LB	6-3	243	07/21/1975	3	UCLA
56	Bush, Lewis	LB	6-2	249	12/02/1969	9	Washington State
51	Cadrez, Glenn	LB	6-2	241	01/02/1970	10	Houston
99	Jordan, Richard	LB	6-1	256	12/01/1974	3	Missouri Southern State
57	Maslowski, Mike	LB	6-1	243	07/11/1974	3	Wisconsin-La Crosse
53	Patton, Marcus	LB	6-2	239	05/01/1967	12	UCLA
55	Stills, Gary	LB	6-2	235	07/11/1974	3	West Virginia

#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
8	Andersen, Morten	K	6-2	222	08/19/1960	20	Michigan State
4	Stryzinski, Dan	P	6-2	203	05/15/1965	12	Indiana

## 2002 DRAFTES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	6	Sims, Ryan	DT	6-4	311	05/04/1980	North Carolina
2	11	Freeman, Eddie	DT	6-5	310	01/04/1978	UAB
4	9	Easy, Omar	RB	6-1	244	10/29/1977	Penn State
5	8	Fujita, Scott	LB	6-5	248	04/28/1979	California
7	10	Rodriguez, Maurice	LB	6-1	239	08/30/1978	Fresno State

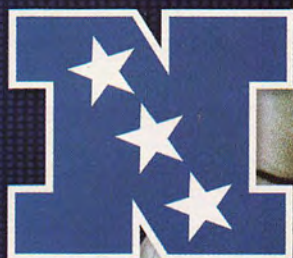
## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Cleveland	1:00
September 15	JACKSONVILLE	1:00
September 22	at New England	1:00
September 29	MIAMI	1:00
October 6	at NY Jets	4:05
October 13	at San Diego	4:15
October 20	DENVER	1:00
October 27	OAKLAND	1:00
November 3	OPEN DATE	
November 10	at San Francisco	4:15
November 17	BUFFALO	1:00
November 24	at Seattle	4:05
December 1	ARIZONA	1:00
December 8	ST. LOUIS	1:00
December 15	at Denver	4:05
December 22	SAN DIEGO	1:00
December 28	at Oakland	5:00

All times Eastern



# NFC EAST





# In the division of the two maniacal owners—Jones and Snyder—neither will fly with the Eagles.

**W**ithout the Cardinals to kick around anymore, the last four winners of the NFC East—Eagles in 2001, Giants in 2000, Redskins in 1999 and Cowboys in 1998—will be even closer to each other's throats.

The winner of the offseason, as usual, was Washington owner Daniel Snyder, who won't sit still until his Redskins return to glory. After years of watching others fail to lure Florida coach Steve Spurrier into the NFL, Snyder succeeded. It didn't bother Spurrier that he is Snyder's fourth coach in less than two seasons, following Norv Turner, Terry Robiskie and Marty Schottenheimer.

Snyder gave Spurrier an unprecedented \$25 million contract. He also hired defensive coordinator Marvin Lewis away from the 2000 champion Baltimore Ravens and signed outstanding linebackers Jeremiah Trotter and Jessie Armstead away from the Eagles and Giants, respectively.

If the Redskins are half as productive during the season as they were over the winter, they should run away with the division.

## Philadelphia Eagles

The Eagles want to pick up where they left off and continue the momentum coach Andy Reid has started in his three years of steady improvement. From 5-11 to wild-card team to NFC title game, the Eagles figure they are due a Super Bowl visit soon.

Donovan McNabb has developed into the premier quarterback in the division and is only a big game or two away from surpassing Green Bay's Brett Favre and St. Louis' Kurt Warner in the NFC. Making sure he gets enough help on offense and defense is Reid's immediate challenge.

## Washington Redskins

Spurrier doesn't seem worried about who will

play quarterback for him because he has seen marginal talents like Danny Wuerffel win the Heisman Trophy in his system at Florida.

Defensive coordinators are looking forward to the prospect of introducing "Coach Superior" to NFL challenges. At least they are so far. What could propel the Redskins to the top is a defense full of hungry veterans looking for one final feather in their headdress.

## Dallas Cowboys

Owner/General Manager Jerry Jones doesn't like to be upstaged by anyone, so his offseason machinations ran a close second to Snyder's. Jones even shocked a long snapper named Jeff Robinson by overpaying him to jump from St. Louis because the Cowboys are convinced that some of their 11 losses last season were caused by nothing more than bad snaps.

Free agents La'Roi Glover from New Orleans, Kevin Hardy from Jacksonville and Bryant Westbrook from Detroit will shore up coach Dave Campo's defense. Jones also thinks he won the draft by adding highly regarded prospects Roy Williams, Andre Gurode, Antonio Bryant and Derek Ross with his first four picks. All could start.

## New York Giants

Look out below, which is where the Giants appear to be headed after a disappointing 7-9 season. Early back-to-back, one-point losses unhinged their hopes and they have done little to retool a team that lost the 2000 Super Bowl to Baltimore.

Outstanding defensive end Michael Strahan set a record for sacks, and then spent his offseason in squabbles with management and teammates over his contract. Top draft choice Jeremy Shockey is a welcome sight at tight end for coach Jim Fassel and quarterback Kerry Collins, but is he enough?



Previews by Don Pierson

## TOP PLAYERS

### OFFENSE:

**Donovan McNabb, QB**  
Philadelphia Eagles

### DEFENSE:

**LaVar Arrington, LB**  
Washington Redskins

### NEWCOMER:

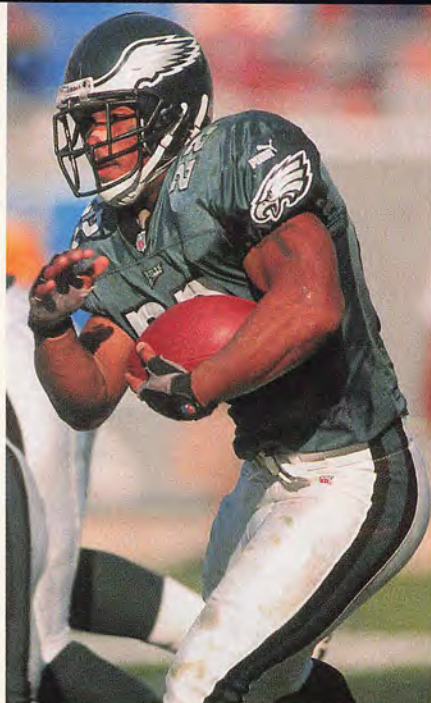
**Roy Williams, S**  
Dallas Cowboys





NFC EAST

# Philadelphia Eagles



## Trotter's loss hurts, but draft further strengthens secondary and McNabb keeps spreading the wealth.

If anybody still believes in such a thing as steady progress, the Eagles are the obvious choice to represent the NFC in the Super Bowl. Under coach Andy Reid, they have been climbing the ladder of success from a wild-card playoff team to the NFC title game. It's their turn.

The problem is the league is so unpredictable it precludes a divine right of succession. Like everyone else, the Eagles will be starting over, trying to recapture whatever chemistry and camaraderie bound them together for their NFC East title run.

Soon after middle linebacker Jeremiah Trotter was voted Most Valuable Defensive Player by teammates, the Eagles slapped a franchise tag on him to keep him off the early free-agent market, then released him and let him go to the arch-rival Redskins. How his absence sits with the Eagles both on and off the field is a matter to be determined. And with two games a year between the Eagles and Redskins, Trotter will be only too eager to try to determine it.

### OFFENSE

Quarterback Donovan McNabb, now entering his prime in his fourth season and ready for the Super Bowl, is the unquestioned leader of this outfit, Trotter or no Trotter. Reid's task is to

surround him with more help on offense and defense so McNabb doesn't grow weary of carrying an inordinate burden.

McNabb single-handedly was the difference when the Eagles traveled to Chicago to dispatch of the Bears in the playoffs. In St. Louis, McNabb's performance in a loss to the Rams let everyone know his time will surely come. At least that's the master plan and McNabb is sticking with it, improving in each of his first three seasons in passing efficiency and ratio of touchdown passes to interceptions.

Despite some inquiries in the early stages of free agency, the Eagles failed to add any impact player on offense, as running back Warrick Dunn and receiver Johnnie Morton signed elsewhere. This means McNabb will operate with essentially the same cast, although Reid expects bigger things from younger prospects.

Second-year running back Correll Buckhalter was due for an expanded role until a spring knee injury sidetracked him. Buckhalter was going to push Duce Staley for playing time after nearly matching his totals a year ago.

Second-year receiver Freddie Mitchell will try to break into a lineup that starts James Thrash and Todd Pinkston. Thrash was outstanding as the No. 1 receiver last year in his first season in the system. Tight end Chad Lewis is a perennial favorite target for McNabb, who has an uncanny knack for spreading the ball around to open men. He found 15 different receivers last year.

The addition of quick little Brian Westbrook in the third round will give McNabb another kind of weapon to exploit. Despite knee problems, Westbrook showed exceptional receiving and running skills just down the street at Villanova. Fullback Cecil Martin also has been a valuable receiver in addition to his blocking duties.

McNabb's protection remains first-rate, with left tackle Tra Thomas developing into the best in the NFC and right tackle Jon Runyan improving against New York nemesis Michael Strahan. Guards John Welbourn and Jermaine Mayberry are also solid, and Hank Fraley more than held

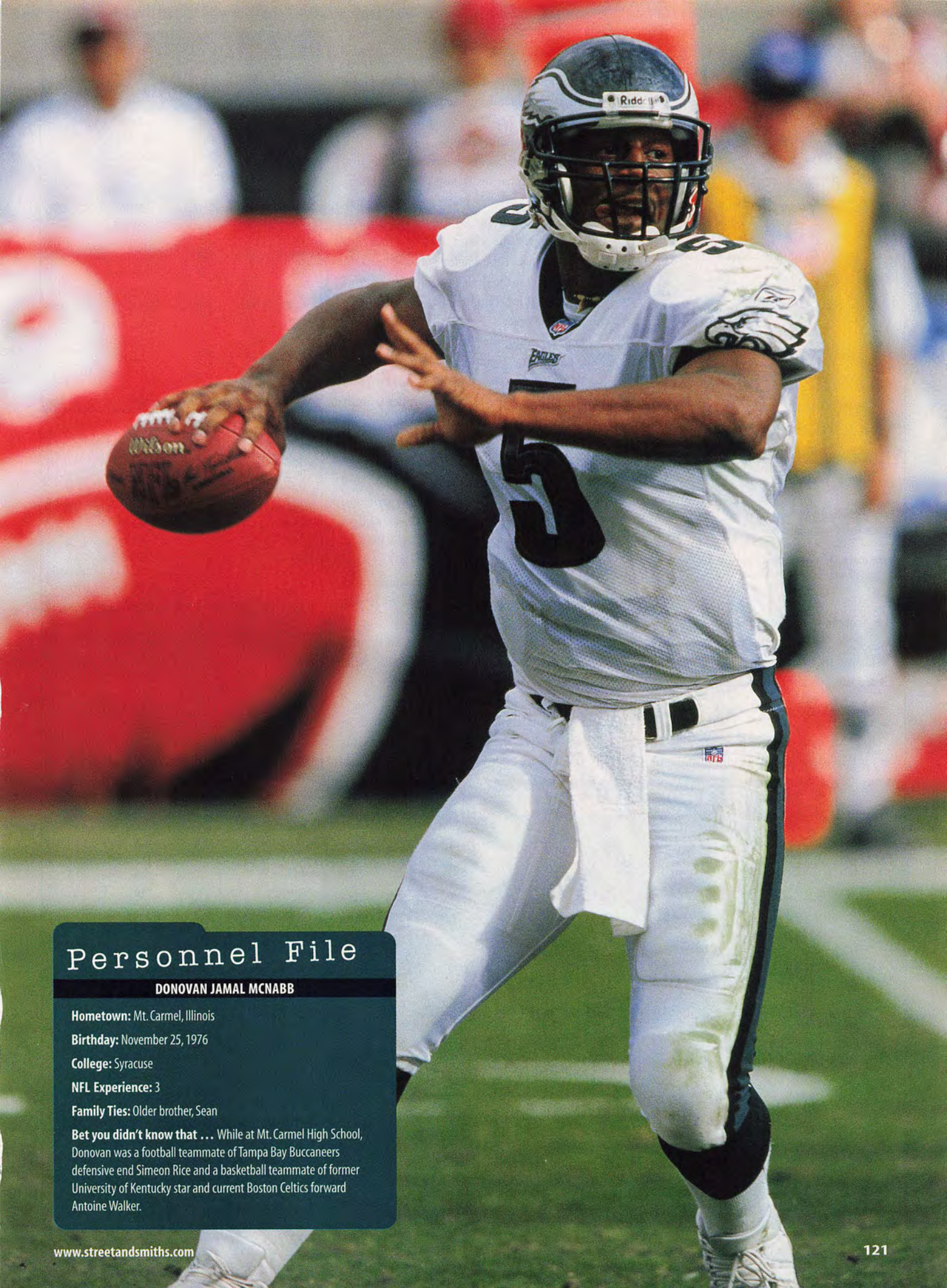
*Feature back Duce Staley (top) put his pass catching on display last season, leading all NFL backs with an average of 9.9 yards per catch on 63 receptions. The 63 catches tied for the club lead. ESPN analyst Joe Theismann says two-time Pro Bowl free safety Brian Dawkins (below) 'is the key to the Eagles defense. I watched film of their game against Seattle and he's in every frame. He blitzes, he's in coverage and he's at the point of attack on running plays.'*

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	307.7	17	TOTAL DEFENSE	293.8	7
RUSHING	111.1	14	AGAINST RUSH	114.8	18
PASSING	196.6	20	AGAINST PASS	179.0	2
SCORING	343	9	PTS. ALLOWED	208	2
PUNT RETURNS	11.5	7	INTERCEPTIONS	14	23
KICK RETURNS	23.8	2	SACKS	45	6
RED ZONE TD %	54.3	7	TURNOVER DIFF.	+9	71







## Personnel File

### DONOVAN JAMAL MCNABB

**Hometown:** Mt. Carmel, Illinois

**Birthday:** November 25, 1976

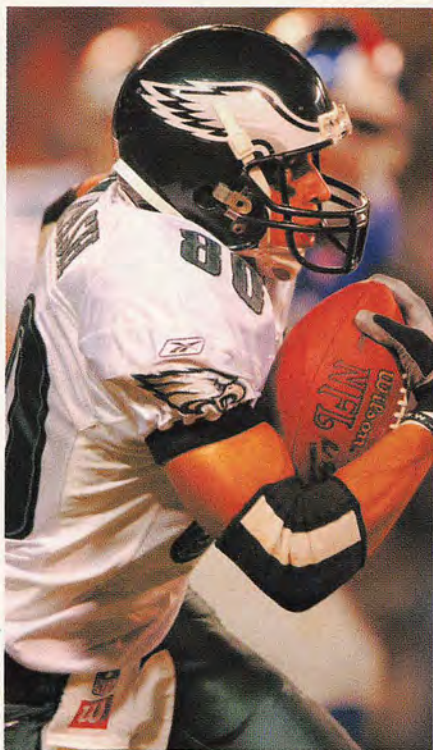
**College:** Syracuse

**NFL Experience:** 3

**Family Ties:** Older brother, Sean

**Bet you didn't know that . . .** While at Mt. Carmel High School, Donovan was a football teammate of Tampa Bay Buccaneers defensive end Simeon Rice and a basketball teammate of former University of Kentucky star and current Boston Celtics forward Antoine Walker.





Signed away from Washington as a free agent last offseason, wide receiver James Thrash produced career-high numbers in receptions (63), receiving yards (833) and touchdowns (eight), and came up big in the playoffs with 11 catches for 151 yards.

his own when subbing for injured center Bubba Miller last year. Doug Brzezinski and Bobbie Williams are backups. Fourth-round pick Scott Peters can play guard or center.

## DEFENSE

Reid wants to improve his defense for coordinator Jim Johnson, starting with stuffing the run.

The Eagles felt fortunate to survive in the playoffs without injured defensive tackle Hollis Thomas, whose return to form will be welcome. The Eagles finished 18th against the run and need more bulk in the middle.

Quick Corey Simon benefits from a run-stuffer like Thomas or backup Paul Grasmanis. End Hugh Douglas is better against the pass than the run. Brandon Whiting is a swingman holding down the other starting end job. Despite the need, the Eagles didn't address the defensive line in the draft until the final round, when they added Temple end Raheem Brock, who is undersized.

Despite leading the team in tackles, Trotter's value didn't correspond to his contract demands, so the Eagles are prepared to move ahead without him. Fourth-year player Barry Gardner is ready to step up, but will need more help from the defensive tackles than Trotter got.

The Eagles brought in Shawn Barber from Washington to replace departed Mike Caldwell at weakside linebacker opposite Carlos Emmons. Second-year linebacker Quinton Caver will get every opportunity to contribute. So will sixth-rounder Tyreo Harrison.

To help stuff the run, the Eagles signed strong safety Blaine Bishop from Tennessee to replace Damon Moore and added hard-hitting Colorado safety Michael Lewis in the second round. Despite the presence of solid cornerbacks Troy Vincent and Bobby Taylor (ably backed by Al Jackson), the Eagles spent a No. 1 and No. 2 draft pick on cornerbacks Lito Sheppard and Sheldon Brown. The idea is to outnumber teams like the Rams, who load up on receivers and seek

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 11, Lost 5

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	L 17-20	St. Louis
09/23	W 27-3	at Seattle
09/30	W 40-18	Dallas
10/07	L 20-21	Arizona
10/22	W 10-9	at N.Y. Giants
10/28	L 10-20	Oakland
11/04	W 21-7	at Arizona
11/11	W 48-17	Minnesota
11/18	W 36-3	at Dallas
11/25	L 3-13	Washington
11/29	W 23-10	at Kansas City
12/09	W 24-14	San Diego
12/16	W 20-6	at Washington
12/22	L 3-13	at San Francisco
12/30	W 24-21	N.Y. Giants
01/06	W 17-13	at Tampa Bay

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Staley	166	604	3.6	44	2
Buckhalter	129	586	4.5	48	2
McNabb	82	482	5.9	33	2
Thrash	6	57	9.5	24	0
Martin	9	27	3.0	8	0
Mitchell	7	9	1.3	11	0
Detmer	8	6	0.8	14	0
Smart	2	6	3.0	6	0
Pinkston	1	5	5.0	5	0

Team	412	1778	4.3	48	6
Opponents	455	1837	4.0	80	6

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Thrash	63	833	13.2	64	8
Staley	63	626	9.9	46	2
Pinkston	42	586	14.0	62	4
Lewis	41	422	10.3	33	6
Martin	24	124	5.2	17	2
F. Mitchell	21	283	13.5	29	1
Buckhalter	13	130	10.0	26	0
Brown	7	95	13.6	18	0
B. Mitchell	6	122	20.3	56	0
D. Douglas	5	77	15.4	27	2
Stewart	5	52	10.4	15	1
Thomason	5	33	6.6	11	0
Scott	2	26	13.0	18	0
Reader	2	14	7.0	11	0
Bartrum	1	4	4.0	4	1

Team	300	3427	11.4	64t	27
Opponents	288	3147	10.9	76	13

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
McNabb	493	285	3233	25	12
Feeley	14	10	143	2	1
Detmer	14	5	51	0	1
Mitchell	1	0	0	0	0

Team	522	300	3427	27	14
Opponents	517	288	3147	13	14

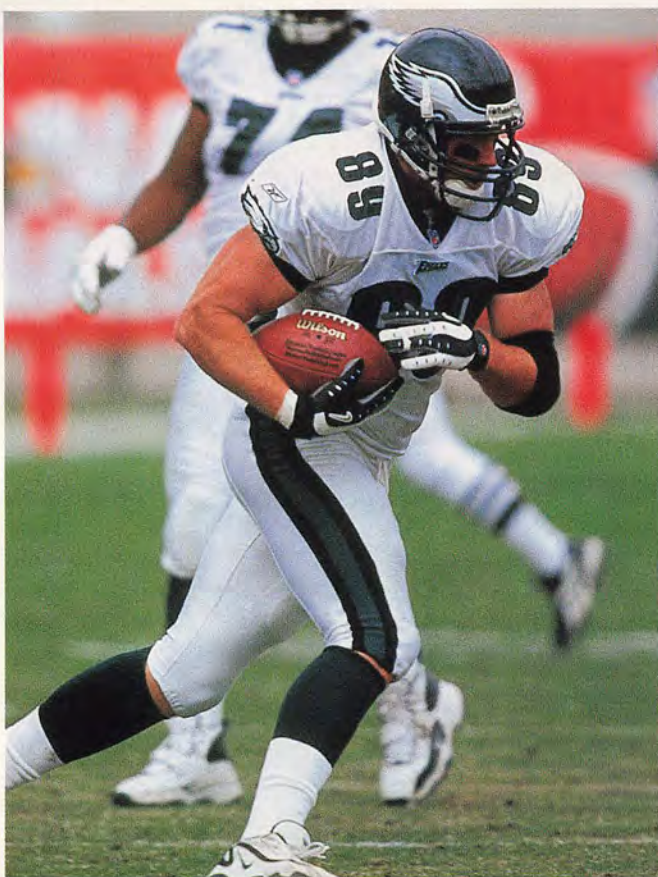
## SACKS

Douglas 9.5, Simon 7.5, Burgess 6.0, Trotter 3.5, Caldwell 3.0, Kalu 3.0, Whiting 2.5, Grasmanis 2.0, Dawkins 1.5, Vincent 1.5, Cook 1.0, Emmons 1.0, Moore 1.0, Taylor 1.0, Walker 1.0

Eagles 45.0, Opponents 40.0







Tight end Chad Lewis played his best football late last season, producing 19 receptions for 219 yards with three touchdowns in his last four games.

mismatches. Free safety Brian Dawkins is the best in the NFC and is good enough to cover in the slot. Rashard Cook backs up at safety.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

David Akers is the best placekicker in the NFC and 40-year-old Sean Landeta's punting leg is aging more slowly than the rest of his body. Brian Mitchell was re-signed to return kicks and could get help from Sheppard as well as fifth-round receiver Freddie Milons of Alabama.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Tennessee	1:00
September 16	at Washington	9:00
September 22	DALLAS	1:00
September 29	HOUSTON	1:00
October 6	at Jacksonville	4:15
October 13	OPEN DATE	
October 20	TAMPA BAY	1:00
October 28	NY GIANTS	9:00
November 3	at Chicago	1:00
November 10	INDIANAPOLIS	1:00
November 17	ARIZONA	1:00
November 25	at San Francisco	9:00
December 1	ST. LOUIS	4:15
December 8	at Seattle	4:05
December 15	WASHINGTON	1:00
December 21	at Dallas	8:30
December 28	at NY Giants	1:30

All times Eastern

## PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Andy Reid, head coach

Tommy Brasher, defensive line; Juan Castillo, offensive line; Brad Childress, offensive coordinator; Dave Culley, wide receivers; Leslie Frazier, defensive backs; John Harbaugh, special teams; Jim Johnson, defensive coordinator; Pat Shurmur, quarterbacks; Tom Melvin, tight ends; Mike Kelly, offensive assistant/quality control; Greg Toub, special teams quality control; Ron Rivera, linebackers; Mike Wolf, strength and conditioning; Sean McDermott, defensive asst./quality control; Steve Spagnuolo, defensive backs; Ted Williams, running backs; Tom Kanavy, asst. strength and conditioning

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Detmer, Koy	QB	6-1	195	07/05/1973	4	Colorado
14	Feeley, A.J.	QB	6-3	217	05/16/1977	1	Oregon
19	Hasselbeck, Tim	QB	6-1	211	04/06/1978	0	Boston College
5	McNabb, Donovan	QB	6-2	226	11/25/1976	3	Syracuse
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
74	Brzezinski, Doug	G	6-4	305	03/11/1976	3	Boston College
63	Frale, Hank	C	6-2	300	09/21/1977	1	Robert Morris
74	Ledford, Dwayne	T	6-3	295	11/02/1976	1	East Carolina
71	Mayberry, Jermane	G	6-4	325	08/29/1973	6	Texas A&M-Kingsville
65	Miller, Bubba	C	6-1	305	01/24/1973	4	Tennessee
73	Pyne, Jim	G	6-2	297	11/23/1971	7	Virginia Tech
69	Runyan, Jon	T	6-7	330	11/27/1973	6	Michigan
72	Thomas, Tra	T	6-7	349	11/20/1974	4	Florida State
76	Welbourn, John	G	6-5	318	03/30/1976	3	California
66	Williams, Bobbie	G	6-3	320	09/25/1976	1	Arkansas
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
28	Buckhalter, Correll	RB	6-0	222	10/06/1978	1	Nebraska
38	Martin, Cecil	RB	6-0	235	07/08/1975	3	Wisconsin
30	Mitchell, Brian	RB	5-10	221	08/18/1968	12	Southwestern Louisiana
34	Reader, Jamie	RB	6-0	238	05/04/1974	1	Akron
24	Smart, Rod	RB	5-9	185	01/09/1977	1	Western Kentucky
22	Staley, Duce	RB	5-11	220	02/27/1975	5	South Carolina
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
88	Bartrum, Mike	TE	6-4	245	06/23/1970	8	Marshall
85	Brown, Na	WR	6-0	196	02/22/1977	3	North Carolina
82	Douglas, Dameane	WR	6-0	195	03/15/1976	3	California
89	Lewis, Chad	TE	6-6	252	10/05/1971	5	Brigham Young
84	Mitchell, Freddie	WR	5-11	184	11/28/1978	1	UCLA
19	Morey, Sean	WR	5-11	190	02/26/1976	1	Brown
87	Pinkston, Todd	WR	6-2	170	04/23/1977	2	Southern Mississippi
86	Scott, Gari	WR	6-0	191	06/02/1978	1	Michigan State
81	Stewart, Tony	TE	6-5	255	08/09/1979	1	Penn State
83	Thomason, Jeff	TE	6-5	255	12/30/1969	9	Oregon
80	Thrash, James	WR	6-0	200	04/28/1975	5	Missouri Southern State
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
59	Burgess, Derrick	DE	6-2	266	08/12/1978	1	Mississippi
53	Douglas, Hugh	DE	6-2	280	08/23/1971	7	Central State
95	Frank, John	DE	6-4	280	07/01/1974	0	Utah
96	Grasmanis, Paul	DT	6-3	298	08/02/1974	6	Notre Dame
91	Hamiter, Uhuru	DE	6-4	280	03/14/1973	3	Delaware State
94	Kalu, Ndukwue	DE	6-3	265	08/03/1975	5	Rice
90	Simon, Corey	DT	6-2	293	03/02/1977	2	Florida State
78	Thomas, Hollis	DT	6-0	306	01/10/1974	6	Northern Illinois
97	Walker, Darwin	DT	6-3	294	06/15/1977	2	Tennessee
98	Whiting, Brandon	DE	6-3	285	07/30/1976	4	California
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
23	Bishop, Blaine	S	5-9	203	07/24/1970	9	Ball State
42	Cook, Rashard	S	5-11	197	04/18/1977	3	Southern California
29	Crutchfield, Darrel	CB	6-0	177	03/26/1979	1	Clemson
20	Dawkins, Brian	S	5-11	200	10/13/1973	6	Clemson
41	Hampton, William	S	5-10	190	03/07/1975	1	Murray State
31	Harris, Al	CB	6-1	185	12/07/1974	4	Texas A&M-Kingsville
43	Moore, Damon	S	5-11	215	09/15/1976	3	Ohio State
21	Taylor, Bobby	CB	6-3	216	12/28/1973	7	Notre Dame
23	Vincent, Troy	CB	6-1	200	06/08/1971	10	Wisconsin
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
59	Barber, Shawn	LB	6-2	237	01/14/1975	4	Richmond
55	Caver, Quinton	LB	6-4	230	08/22/1978	1	Arkansas
51	Emmons, Carlos	LB	6-5	250	09/03/1973	6	Arkansas State
52	Gardner, Barry	LB	6-0	248	12/13/1976	3	Northwestern
58	Reese, Ike	LB	6-2	222	10/16/1973	4	Michigan State
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Akers, David	K	5-10	200	12/09/1974	4	Louisville
7	Landeta, Sean	P	6-0	215	01/06/1962	17	Towson State

## 2002 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	26	Sheppard, Lito	CB	5-10	194	04/08/1981	Florida
2	26	Lewis, Michael	S	6-1	211	04/29/1980	Colorado
2	27	Brown, Sheldon	CB	5-9	196	03/19/1979	South Carolina
3	26	Westbrook, Brian	RB	5-8	200	09/02/1979	Villanova
4	26	Peters, Scott	C	6-3	300	11/23/1978	Arizona State
5	27	Milons, Freddie	WR	5-10	190	06/27/1980	Alabama
6	26	Harrison, Tyreo	LB	6-2	238	05/15/1980	Notre Dame
7	27	Brock, Raheem	DE	6-4	267	06/10/1978	Temple



# Washington Redskins

## 'Steve Superior' is certain the rest of the NFC East can be Gator bait for new-look 'Skins.

Leave it to Daniel Snyder to win the off-season. The overzealous owner of the Redskins likes to make splashes and grab headlines. Thanks to Snyder, Steve Spurrier is now the highest-paid coach in the NFL at \$5 million per year. Other NFL teams have been trying for years to woo Spurrier from his comfortable Florida confines. Snyder pushed the right button—on his wallet.

Two years ago, Snyder paid too much for Deion Sanders and Bruce Smith and Jeff George

and decided to make Redskins fans help pay by charging to watch training camp. Last year, Snyder brought in conservative coach Marty Schottenheimer to return to old ways.

This year it's Spurrier's turn to try to make Snyder happy. So far, all is well. Spurrier insists he can not only win in the NFL, but he can win with ex-Florida Gators, cheap ones, at that. His offense, baffling to collegiate rivals, is so simple he says he can teach it to anybody and compete right away.

### OFFENSE

So confident is coach Superior that he claims journeymen quarterbacks Shane Matthews and Danny Wuerffel—both of whom played for him at Florida—can get the job done. Just in case, the Redskins drafted Tulane's Patrick Ramsey in the first round. He has the brains to learn Spurrier's ways in a hurry and the arm to make all the throws necessary. Spurrier also has no qualms about second-year man Sage Rosenfels from Iowa State. Then there is untested but mobile Dameyune Craig, picked up from Carolina.

Who needs Jeff George or Brad Johnson or Tony Banks? They didn't win despite their big arms and big contracts, so why not go with young Spurrier puppets? The NFL awaits with great anticipation as Spurrier seeks to improve the 28th-ranked offense (30th in passing).

Receivers? Spurrier no longer needs to fool around with big-time tease Michael Westbrook. He signed Tampa Bay castoffs Reidel Anthony



Fourth-year cornerback Champ Bailey, a Pro Bowler last season, has started all 48 of his games as a Redskin and has 13 career interceptions.

and Jacquez Green, plus reject Chris Doering—three more Gators. He has last year's No. 1 pick, Rod Gardner, but he prefers smaller, quicker receivers who can separate and wreak havoc in secondaries. Kevin Lockett is an underused player who could get a chance, and so will third-round pick Cliff Russell, another quick, little player. The Redskins tried to trade up in the draft to get Tennessee receiver Donte' Stallworth, the fastest player in the draft. When they failed, they were happy to trade down and take Ramsey at 32nd overall.

Spurrier let productive tight end Stephen Alexander get away because third-year man Zeron Flemister is ready to make his mark in the passing game.

Spurrier is admittedly pass-happy, but he isn't dumb. He praises the play of running back Stephen Davis, the NFC's leading rusher, and promises not to ignore him. Davis has thrived under predecessors Schottenheimer and Norv Turner. He carried more times than any other back in the NFL last year and still averaged four yards a carry. Spurrier may reduce the load and increase the effectiveness. Bryan Johnson is a



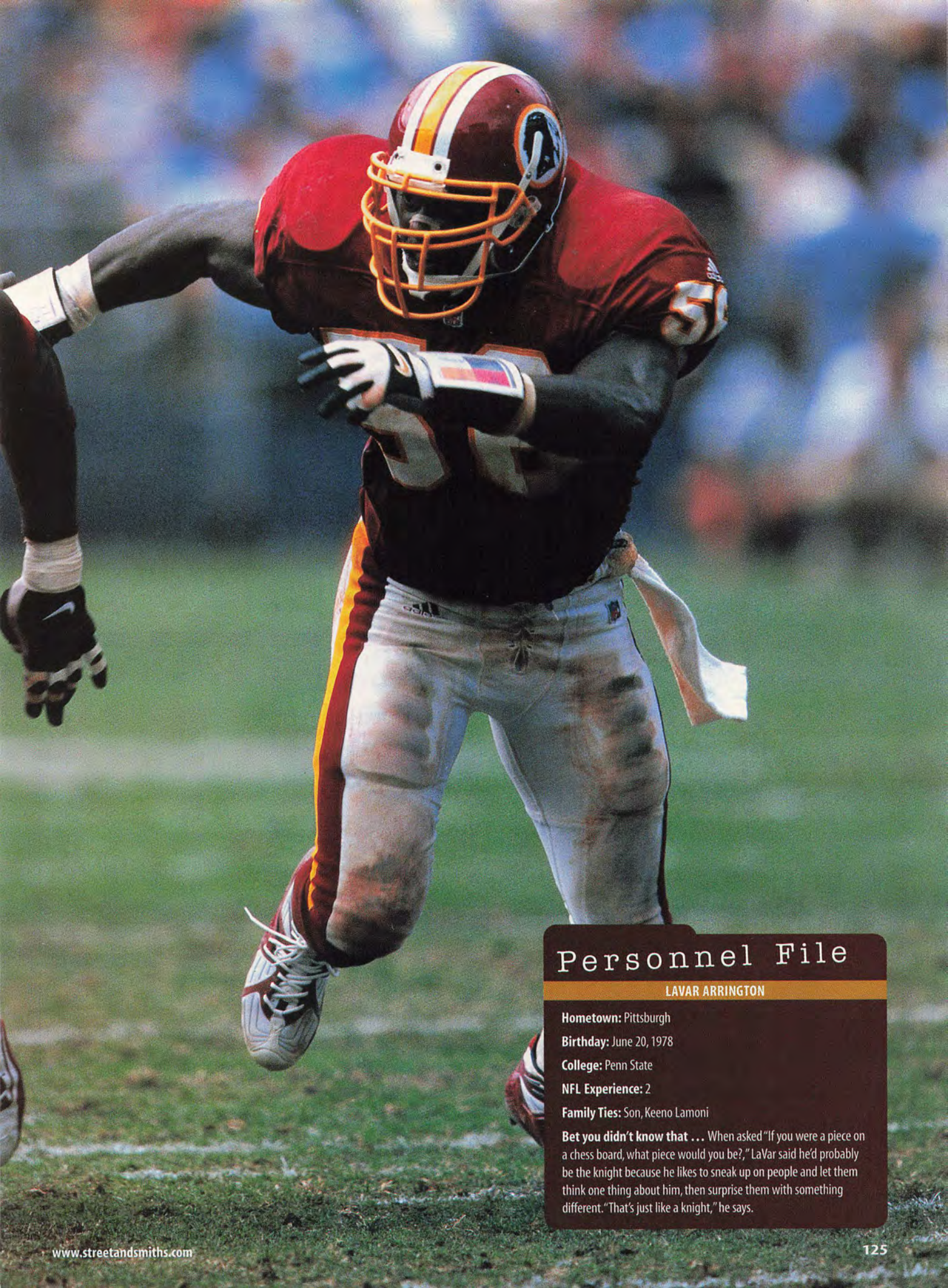
With an NFC-leading total of 1,432 yards, Stephen Davis became the first Redskins running back to gain more than 1,000 yards in three straight seasons.

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	277.2	28	TOTAL DEFENSE	302.9	10
RUSHING	121.8	8	AGAINST RUSH	116.8	20
PASSING	155.4	30	AGAINST PASS	186.1	6
SCORING	256	28	PTS. ALLOWED	303	13
PUNT RETURNS	10.5	12	INTERCEPTIONS	23	3
KICK RETURNS	20.8	19	SACKS	25	28
RED ZONE TD %	40.9	27	TURNOVER DIFF.	+6	11T







## Personnel File

LAVAR ARRINGTON

**Hometown:** Pittsburgh

**Birthday:** June 20, 1978

**College:** Penn State

**NFL Experience:** 2

**Family Ties:** Son, Keeno Lamoni

**Bet you didn't know that ...** When asked "If you were a piece on a chess board, what piece would you be?," LaVar said he'd probably be the knight because he likes to sneak up on people and let them think one thing about him, then surprise them with something different. "That's just like a knight," he says.



fullback with the receiving skills Spurrier likes. Second-round pick Ladell Betts is a nice backup for Davis.

The Redskins are set for years at offensive tackle with starters Chris Samuels and Jon Jansen. They are unsettled at guard, where St. Louis pickup Rod Jones, Indianapolis signee Larry Moore and New York Jets trade acquisition David Loverne are expected to vie for the two starting jobs where Ben Coleman and departed Dave Szott played last year. David Brandt, who also can play guard, is expected to move to center to replace departed Cory Raymer.

## DEFENSE

To prove he is also paying attention to defense, Spurrier stole Marvin Lewis from Baltimore so he wouldn't have to pay attention once the season starts. Snyder made Lewis the highest-paid coordinator in the league at \$850,000 and Spurrier thinks he's well worth it.

By giving Eagles middle linebacker Jeremiah Trotter a \$7 million signing bonus on a seven-year contract, Snyder once again stepped up as a man intent on buying a division title. The Redskins also signed linebacker Jessie Armstead away from the Giants, where his vocal leadership and production will be missed.

When valuable defensive lineman Kenard Lang bolted for Cleveland, the Redskins replaced him with Jacksonville's Renaldo Wynn. Wynn can either push defensive ends Bruce Smith

and Marco Coleman or line up beside Dan Wilkinson at defensive tackle. Like most teams, the Redskins need more help on the defensive line, where Donovan Arp and Delbert Cowsette are backups. Smith led the team with five sacks last year and just turned 39. If it weren't for 42-year-old teammate Darrell Green, Smith would feel old.

Armstead and Trotter will join budding superstar LaVar Arrington on a formidable linebacking crew. Armstead is an upgrade over departed Shawn Barber, and Trotter will replace veteran



Defensive tackle Dan Wilkinson, who weighs in at 325 pounds, recorded two interceptions for the first time in his eight-year career last season.

## PROJECTED STARTERS



**REDSKINS**

## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 8, Lost 8

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	L 3-30	at San Diego
09/24	L 0-37	at Green Bay
09/30	L 13-45	Kansas City
10/07	L 9-23	at N.Y. Giants
10/15	L 7-9	at Dallas
10/21	W 17-14	Carolina
10/28	W 35-21	N.Y. Giants
11/04	W 27-14	Seattle
11/18	W 17-10	at Denver
11/25	W 13-3	at Philadelphia
12/02	L 14-20	Dallas
12/09	W 20-10	at Arizona
12/16	L 6-20	Philadelphia
12/23	L 15-20	Chicago
12/30	W 40-10	at New Orleans
01/06	W 20-17	Arizona

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Davis	356	1432	4.0	32	5
Carter	63	308	4.9	30	3
Banks	47	152	3.2	17	2
Bennett	10	39	3.9	8	0
Gardner	1	16	16.0	16	0
Westbrook	2	8	8.0	8	0
George	4	0	0	2	0

Team	490	1948	4.0	32	10
Opponents	484	1869	3.9	46	10

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Westbrook	57	664	11.6	76	4
Gardner	46	741	16.1	85	4
Davis	28	205	7.3	29	0
Lockett	22	293	13.3	34	0
Flemister	18	196	10.9	33	2
Bennett	15	112	7.5	30	0
Carter	13	83	15.0	15	0
Rasby	10	128	12.8	27	2
Johnson	9	129	14.3	32	0
Alexander	9	85	21.0	21	0
Metcalf	4	19	9.0	9	0
Thompson	3	52	31.0	31	1
Battaglia	1	9	9.0	9	0

Team	235	2716	11.6	85t	13
Opponents	262	3116	11.9	64t	19

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Banks	370	198	2386	10	10
George	42	23	168	0	3
Graham	19	13	131	2	0
Lockett	1	1	31	1	0

Team	432	235	2716	13	13
Opponents	473	262	3116	19	23

## SACKS

Smith 5.0, Coleman 4.5, Lang 4.0, Wilkinson 4.0, Mitchell 2.0, DeLoach 1.0, Lyle 1.0, Mason 1.0, Pierce 1.0, Terrell 1.0, Arrington 0.5

Redskins 25.0, Opponents 38.0



# WASHINGTON REDSKINS

Steve Spurrier, head coach

Marvin Lewis, defensive coordinator; Chip Morton, strength and conditioning; George Catavolos, defensive backs; George Edwards, linebackers; John Hastings, asst. strength and conditioning; Kirk Olivadotti, asst. defensive backs; Mike Stock, special teams; Steve Spurrier Jr., wide receivers; Noah Brindise, asst. quarterbacks; DeChon Burns, asst. defensive line/quality control; Jim Collins, asst. special teams; Kim Helton, offensive line; Lawson Holland, tight ends; Ricky Hunley, defensive line; John Hunt, asst. offensive line; Hue Jackson, running backs

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Craig, Dameyune	QB	6-1	200	04/19/1974	2	Auburn
9	Matthews, Shane	QB	6-3	193	06/01/1970	4	Florida
18	Rosenfels, Sage	QB	6-4	218	03/06/1978	0	Iowa State
17	Wuerffel, Danny	QB	6-1	212	05/27/1974	5	Florida

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
77	Albright, Ethan	C	6-5	268	05/01/1971	7	North Carolina
54	Brandt, David	T	6-4	309	09/25/1977	1	Michigan
62	Coleman, Ben	G	6-5	332	05/18/1971	9	Wake Forest
51	Fischer, Mark	C	6-3	303	07/29/1974	2	Purdue
70	Hires, Leon	C	6-4	285	12/06/1977	0	Florida
76	Jansen, Jon	T	6-6	311	01/28/1976	3	Michigan
60	Jones, Rod	T	6-5	325	01/11/1974	6	Kansas
79	Loverne, David	G	6-3	299	05/22/1976	2	San Jose State
50	Moore, Larry	G	6-2	296	06/01/1975	4	Brigham Young
60	Samuels, Chris	T	6-5	303	07/28/1977	2	Alabama
73	Simmons, Terrance	T	6-8	310	05/03/1976	0	Alabama State
	Sulfsted, Alex	T	6-4	305	12/21/1977	0	Miami (OH)
68	Tucker, Ross	T	6-4	305	03/02/1979	1	Princeton

#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
48	Davis, Stephen	RB	6-0	235	03/01/1974	6	Auburn
47	Johnson, Bryan	RB	6-1	234	01/18/1978	2	Boise State
45	Watson, Kenny	RB	5-11	205	03/13/1978	0	Penn State

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
85	Anthony, Reidel	WR	5-11	180	10/20/1976	5	Florida
89	Flemister, Zeron	TE	6-4	249	09/08/1976	2	Iowa
87	Gardner, Rod	WR	6-2	218	10/26/1977	1	Clemson
81	Green, Jacques	WR	5-9	168	01/15/1976	4	Florida
83	Lockett, Kevin	WR	6-0	186	09/08/1974	5	Kansas State
85	McCants, Darmerian	WR	6-3	214	08/01/1977	0	Delaware State
86	Rasby, Walter	TE	6-3	256	09/07/1972	8	Wake Forest
16	Skaggs, Justin	WR	6-2	200	04/22/1979	0	Evangel
88	Thompson, Derrius	WR	6-2	216	07/05/1977	3	Baylor

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
74	Arp, Donovan	DT	6-3	280	01/01/1978	0	Louisville
99	Coleman, Marco	DE	6-3	270	12/18/1969	10	Georgia Tech
91	Cowsette, Delbert	DT	6-1	288	09/03/1977	1	Maryland
93	Leverette, Otis	DE	6-6	275	05/31/1978	1	UAB
72	Powell, Carl	DE	6-2	272	01/04/1974	3	Louisville
78	Smith, Bruce	DE	6-4	261	06/18/1963	17	Virginia Tech
95	Wilkinson, Dan	DT	6-4	325	03/13/1973	8	Ohio State
97	Wynn, Renaldo	DE	6-3	280	09/03/1974	5	Notre Dame

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
24	Bailey, Champ	CB	6-0	188	06/22/1978	3	Georgia
28	Green, Darrell	CB	5-9	187	02/15/1960	19	Texas A&M-Kingsville
39	Marshall, Lemar	S	6-2	208	12/17/1976	0	Michigan State
26	Ohalet, Ifeanyi	CB	6-2	217	05/22/1979	1	USC
22	Serwanga, Kato	CB	6-0	200	07/23/1976	3	California
29	Shade, Sam	S	6-0	205	06/14/1973	7	Alabama
21	Smoot, Fred	CB	5-11	172	04/17/1979	1	Mississippi State
31	Terrell, David	S	6-0	187	07/08/1975	2	UTEP

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
98	Armstead, Jessie	LB	6-1	240	10/26/1970	9	Miami (FL)
56	Arrington, LaVar	LB	6-3	246	06/20/1978	2	Penn State
57	Curry, Donte	LB	6-1	226	07/22/1978	1	Morris Brown
96	Dailey, Jauron	LB	6-3	232	05/22/1978	0	Florida A&M
53	Mason, Eddie	LB	6-0	236	01/09/1972	5	North Carolina
55	Mitchell, Kevin	LB	6-1	250	01/01/1971	8	Syracuse
58	Pierce, Antonio	LB	6-1	232	10/26/1978	1	Arizona
54	Trotter, Jeremiah	LB	6-1	261	01/20/1977	4	Stephen F. Austin

#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Barker, Bryan	P	6-1	200	06/28/1964	12	Santa Clara
5	Conway, Brett	K	6-2	207	03/08/1975	4	Penn State

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	32	Ramsey, Patrick	QB	6-2	224	02/14/1979	Tulane
2	24	Betts, Ladell	RB	5-10	220	08/27/1979	Iowa
3	14	Bauman, Rashad	CB	5-8	186	05/07/1979	Oregon
3	22	Russell, Cliff	WR	5-11	183	02/08/1979	Utah
5	24	Lott, Andre	CB	5-10	194	05/31/1979	Tennessee
5	25	Royal, Robert	TE	6-5	253	05/15/1979	LSU
6	20	Coleman, Reggie	T	6-5	301	10/04/1978	Tennessee
7	19	Grau, Jeff	TE	6-3	246	12/16/1979	UCLA
7	23	Scott, Gregory	DE	6-4	268	10/02/1979	Hampton
7	46	Cartwright, Rock	RB	5-8	237	12/03/1979	Kansas State



A right-elbow injury forced 10-year veteran defensive end Marco Coleman to miss four games last season. His sack total dropped to 4.5 after a 2000 season that produced a career-high 12.

journeymen middle linebackers Kevin Mitchell and Robert Jones. Armstead and Trotter, both emotional players, will have no trouble motivating themselves and teammates against their former teams, the last two NFC East winners.

Cornerbacks Champ Bailey and Fred Smoot should enjoy the press-coverage schemes of Lewis. Green, who claims this is his final season, can still run. Sam Shade is the strong safety and David Terrell the free safety. The Redskins spent third- and fifth-round picks, respectively, on secondary depth in Rashad Bauman and Andre Lott.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Jacquez Green will help Bailey return punts. Anthony can return kick-offs. Brett Conway is the placekicker and Bryan Barker will try to fend off Dan Frantz for the punting job.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	ARIZONA	1:00
September 16	PHILADELPHIA	9:00
September 22	at San Francisco	4:15
September 29	OPEN DATE	
October 6	at Tennessee	1:00
October 13	NEW ORLEANS	1:00
October 20	at Green Bay	4:15
October 27	INDIANAPOLIS	8:30
November 3	at Seattle	4:15
November 10	at Jacksonville	4:05
November 17	at NY Giants	1:00
November 24	ST. LOUIS	4:15
October 28	at Dallas	4:05
December 8	NY GIANTS	1:00
December 15	at Philadelphia	1:00
December 22	HOUSTON	1:00
December 29	DALLAS	1:00

All times Eastern



## Bonanza draft has Cowboys optimistic about more than just Emmitt breaking Payton's record in '02.

**N**o matter what happens to the rest of the Cowboys, Emmitt Smith will go down in history this season. He's on track to break Walter Payton's all-time rushing record. The question is whether he can keep his teammates from going down in the NFC East. Smith is optimistic after a productive offseason.

Presumably on his last legs at age 33, Smith nevertheless remains the one sure thing coach Dave Campo can take to war. By overachieving on defense, Campo won five games last season. The rebuilding continues, though not yet at full-speed. Owner Jerry Jones claims he is out of salary-cap jail, and celebrated with a bonanza draft. However, there remains a decided gap between established veterans on this team and unproven youngsters. Until the latter catches up to the former, the Cowboys will struggle.

### OFFENSE

Quincy Carter is the quarterback. As a rookie, his late-season wins over the Giants and Redskins and the 3-3 finish by the Cowboys gave Jones and Campo reason to cheer. Just in case, however, Jones gave baseball convert Chad Hutchinson a big signing bonus to try his hand at the sport he quit after some promising performances at Stanford five years ago.

Wildly imaginative Cowboy fans note that Tom Brady won last year's Super Bowl with less experience than either Carter or backup Anthony Wright and not much more than Hutchinson.

Fortunately, for whoever quarterbacks, he can always hand off to Smith, who can always gain yardage behind the blocking of guard Larry

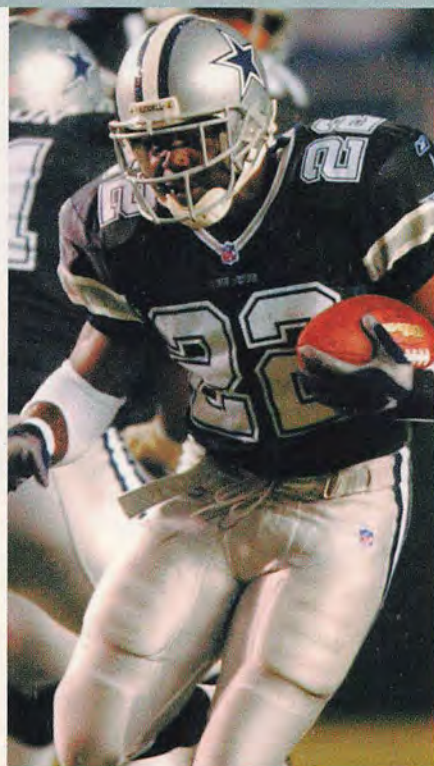
Allen. The Cowboys plan a gala Texas-sized party whenever Smith surpasses one of the football's most formidable and honored records, Payton's 16,726 rushing yards gained between 1975 and 1987 in Chicago.

The Cowboys plan to incorporate talented Troy Hambrick more into the rushing game. He can play either fullback or tailback, but he isn't going to get his share of the load until Smith finishes the business at hand. Robert Thomas is an outstanding blocking fullback and fourth-rounder Jamar Martin from Ohio State is another outstanding blocker.

Carter also has two experienced and fast wide-outs in Raghbir Ismail and Joey Galloway, who managed to stay healthy for 13 games together last season. Despite that good fortune, the two of them combined for only five touchdown passes—not what Jones envisioned when he got them together. Galloway's long gain was only 47 yards, so the Cowboys are buzzing about the addition of talented second-round pick Antonio Bryant from Pitt. Bryant slipped from the first round because of immaturity, which is correctable.

The addition of Bruce Coslet to Campo's staff as offensive coordinator also is expected to juice up an attack that was the lowest scoring in the NFC. It is thin overall and woefully lacking at Coslet's old position of tight end, where Mike Lucky is overworked.

With the unparalleled Allen at left guard and young Solomon Page and Flozell Adams at tackle, the line is good and got better with the drafting of second-rounder Andre Gurode from Colorado. Since Matt Lehr will have his hands full replacing



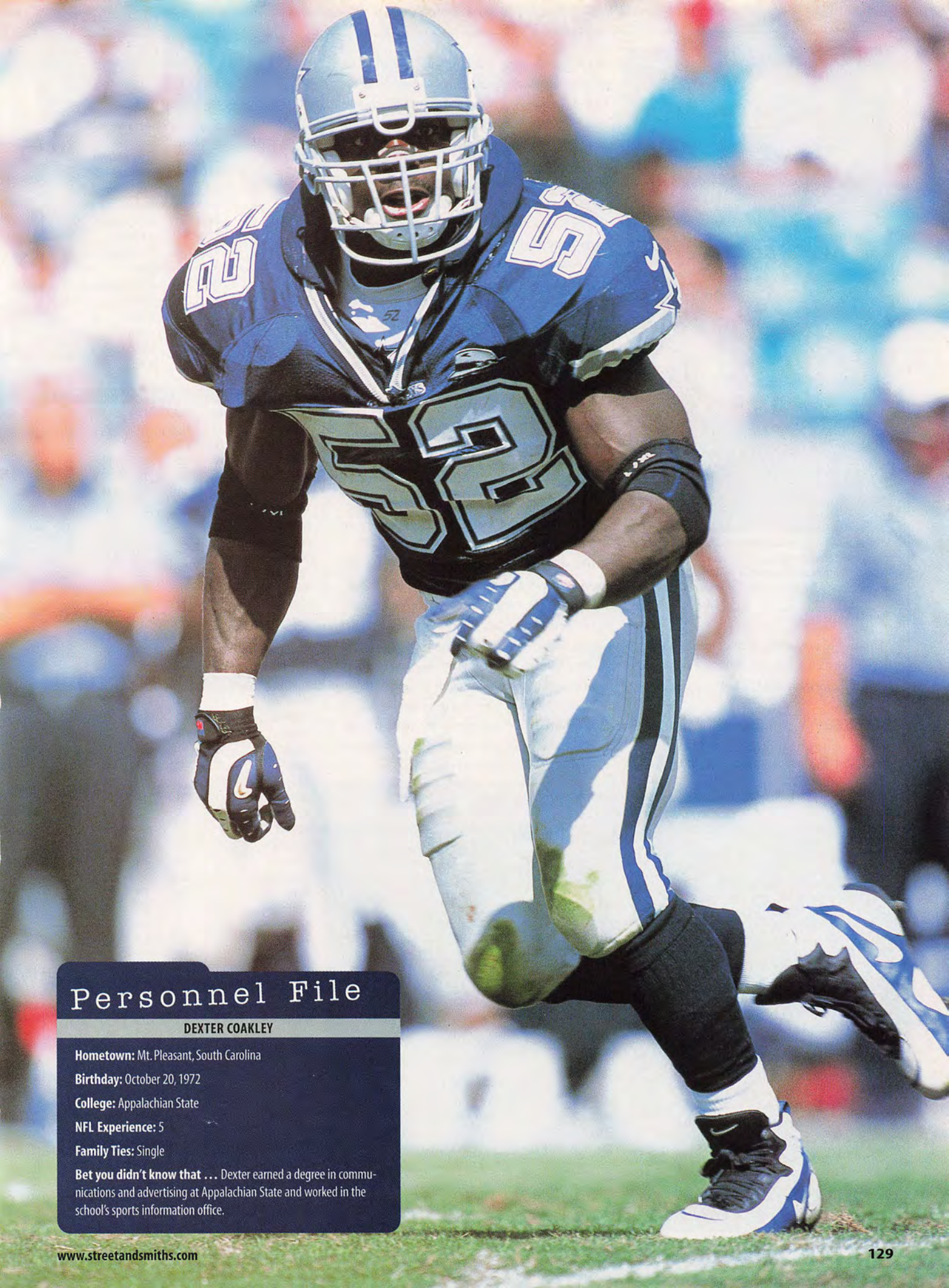
### NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	275.1	29	TOTAL DEFENSE	287.4	4
RUSHING	136.5	3	AGAINST RUSH	106.9	13
PASSING	138.6	31	AGAINST PASS	180.6	3
SCORING	246	30	PTS. ALLOWED	338	20
PUNT RETURNS	12.0	4	INTERCEPTIONS	9	30
KICK RETURNS	23.1	9	SACKS	24	30
RED ZONE TD %	34.7	31	TURNOVER DIFF.	-9	24T



Just 539 yards behind Walter Payton's all-time rushing mark entering this season, Emmitt Smith (top) went over 1,000 yards for the 11th straight year in 2001, an NFL record. At bottom, Raghbir Ismail was a one-man show in the limited Dallas passing attack last season, leading the Cowboys in receptions (53), receiving yardage (834) and yards per catch (15.7).





## Personnel File

### DEXTER COAKLEY

**Hometown:** Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina

**Birthday:** October 20, 1972

**College:** Appalachian State

**NFL Experience:** 5

**Family Ties:** Single

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Dexter earned a degree in communications and advertising at Appalachian State and worked in the school's sports information office.





Third-year running back Troy Hambrick was a pleasant surprise and great complement to Emmitt Smith in the backfield for the Cowboys in 2001, finishing third among NFL rushers in yards per carry (5.1) and gaining 579 yards.

Mark Stepnoski at center, Gurode could either help there or challenge Kelvin Garmon at right guard. Char-ron Dorsey and Al Jackson are backups.

## DEFENSE

Campo's defense, coordinated by Mike Zimmer, played well last season, although rivals knew they

didn't have to score much to win. The addition of three big-name free agents—defensive tackle La'Roi Glover, cornerback Bryant Westbrook and linebacker Kevin Hardy—plus No. 1 draft choice Roy Williams at safety indicates the need to improve on that side of the ball. Glover led the league in sacks two years ago. Westbrook and Hardy are former top five picks in the draft.

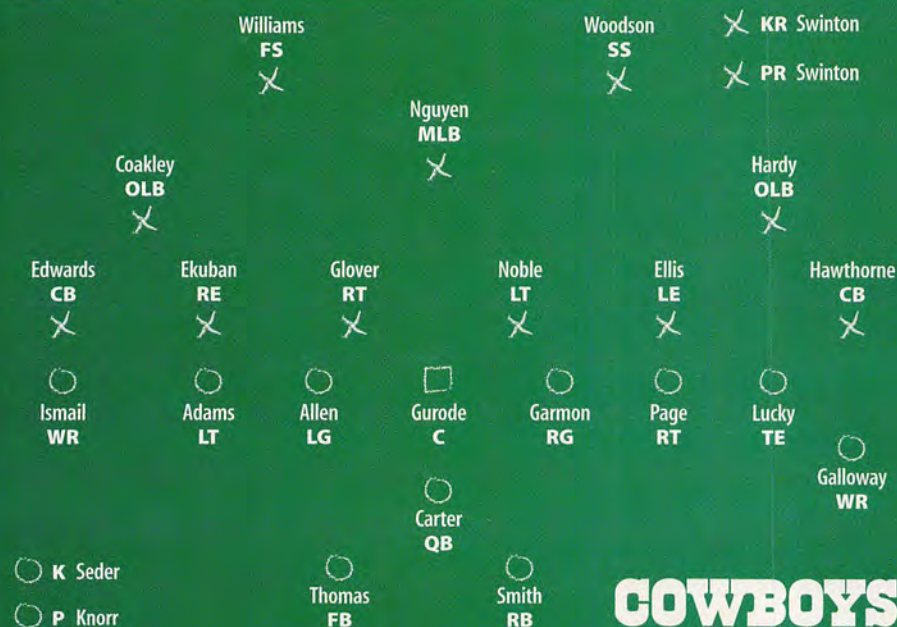
The hope is that the defense will give up a lot fewer points than last year's 21 a game and help take pressure off the young quarterbacks.

If Ebenezer Ekuban can return to form after back surgery, he will join Peppi Zellner and Greg Ellis to form a solid trio at defensive end. Glover was added from New Orleans to replace Michael Myers and provide more push up the middle, where Brandon Noble starts on the nose. The quick Glover was pursued by several teams before casting his lot with the Cowboys. Two years ago, he led the league with 17.5 sacks, so he is welcome on a team coming off only 24 sacks.

Hardy will join weakside linebacker Dexter Coakley and leading tackler Dat Nguyen as part of a very good but thin group.

If Westbrook can shake the injury bug, he will provide help for Duane Hawthorne and Mario Edwards at the corner. Third-round pick Derek Ross from Ohio State could push all of them. Strong safety Darren Woodson remains the glue of the secondary, with Williams expected to step right in and become an instant big-time hitter. If Williams proves better suited to strong safety, Woodson has the experience to move to free safety. Either way, perennial All-Pro Woodson will be an excellent tutor for Williams.

## PROJECTED STARTERS



**COWBOYS**

## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 5, Lost 11

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	L 6-10	Tampa Bay
09/23	L 21-32	San Diego
09/30	L 18-40	At Philadelphia
10/07	L 21-28	at Oakland
10/15	W 9-7	Washington
10/28	W 17-3	Arizona
11/04	L 24-27	at N.Y. Giants
11/11	L 13-20	at Atlanta
11/18	L 3-36	Philadelphia
11/22	L 24-26	Denver
12/02	W 20-14	at Washington
12/09	W 20-13	N.Y. Giants
12/16	L 3-29	at Seattle
12/23	L 10-17	at Arizona
12/30	W 27-21	San Francisco
01/06	L 10-15	at Detroit

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Smith	261	1021	13.9	44	3
Hambrick	113	579	5.1	80	2
Wiley	34	247	7.3	58	0
Carter	45	150	3.3	17	1
Wright	17	57	3.4	12	0
Thomas	6	40	6.7	24	0
Galloway	3	32	10.7	16	0
Ismail	8	31	3.9	11	0
Stoerner	9	27	3.0	13	1
Seder	1	8	8.0	8	1
Chiaverini	1	3	3.0	3	0
Knorr	1	0	0	0	0
Taylor	1	0	0	0	0

Team	376	1609	4.3	34	10
Opponents	477	2299	4.8	61	21

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Ismail	53	834	15.7	80	2
Galloway	52	699	13.4	47	3
Smith	17	116	6.8	22	0
Wiley	16	99	6.2	17	1
Harris	15	141	9.4	28	2
Lucky	13	96	7.4	16	1
Chiaverini	10	107	10.7	21	2
Huggins	8	36	4.5	10	0
Swinton	7	117	16.7	45	1
McGarity	6	45	7.5	11	1
Thomas	5	19	3.8	6	1
T. Hambrick	4	62	15.5	27	0
Rambo	3	28	9.3	14	0
Witherspoon	1	9	9.0	9	0

Team	335	3854	11.5	80t	23
Opponents	291	3571	12.3	69	16

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Carter	176	90	1072	5	7
Wright	98	48	529	5	5
Leaf	88	45	494	1	3
Stoerner	49	26	314	3	5
Knorr	1	0	0	0	0

Team	555	335	3854	23	23
Opponents	478	291	3571	16	8

## SACKS

Ellis 6.0, Myers 3.5, Noble 3.5, Frisch 3.0, Reese 3.0, Zellner 3.0, Dixon 1.0, Evans 1.0

Cowboys 24.0, Opponents 34.0





Darren Woodson's 1,178 career tackles places him second on the Cowboys' all-time list behind Lee Roy Jordan's 1,236.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

The Cowboys thought they lost at least two games last season because of six blocked kicks, so the signing of free-agent long snapper Jeff Robinson from St. Louis was big. Punter Micah Knorr and kicker Tim Seder both figure to benefit from better snaps. Backup receiver Reggie Swinton looks good as the return man on kickoffs and punts.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Houston	8:30
September 15	TENNESSEE	1:00
September 22	at Philadelphia	1:00
September 29	at St. Louis	1:00
October 6	NY GIANTS	1:00
October 13	CAROLINA	1:00
October 20	at Arizona	4:15
October 27	SEATTLE	1:00
November 3	at Detroit	1:00
November 10	OPEN DATE	
November 17	at Indianapolis	1:00
November 24	JACKSONVILLE	1:00
November 28	WASHINGTON	4:05
December 8	SAN FRANCISCO	1:00
December 15	at NY Giants	4:15
December 21	PHILADELPHIA	8:30
December 29	at Washington	1:00

All times Eastern

## DALLAS COWBOYS

Dave Campo, head coach

Joe Avezzano, special teams/tight ends; Bill Bates, nickel package/assistant special teams coach; Wes Chandler, wide receivers; Gary Gibbs, linebackers; Steve Hoffman, kickers/quality control; Frank Verducci, offensive line; Jim Jeffcoat, defensive ends; Joe Juraszek, strength and conditioning; Andre Patterson, defensive tackles; Clancy Pendergast, secondary; Bruce Coslet, offensive coordinator; Galen Hall, running backs; Wade Wilson, quarterbacks; Mike Zimmer, defensive coordinator; Greg Seamon, tight ends/offensive quality control

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
17	Carter, Quincy	QB	6-2	231	10/13/1977	1	Georgia
7	Hutchinson, Chad	QB	6-5	230	02/21/1977	0	Stanford
16	Leaf, Ryan	QB	6-5	235	05/15/1976	3	Washington State
5	Stoerner, Clint	QB	6-2	210	12/29/1977	2	Arkansas
2	Wright, Anthony	QB	6-1	207	02/14/1976	2	South Carolina
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
76	Adams, Flozell	T	6-7	335	05/18/1975	4	Michigan State
73	Allen, Larry	G	6-3	326	11/27/1971	8	Sonoma State
79	Dorsey, Char-ron	T	6-6	347	11/05/1977	1	Florida State
66	Fricke, Ben	G	6-0	280	11/03/1975	3	Houston
61	Garmon, Kelvin	G	6-2	329	10/26/1976	1	Baylor
63	Gibson, Aaron	T	6-6	380	09/27/1977	2	Wisconsin
71	Jackson, Al	G	6-3	311	05/18/1977	1	LSU
68	Lehr, Matt	G	6-2	292	04/25/1979	1	Virginia Tech
77	Page, Solomon	T	6-4	321	02/27/1976	3	West Virginia
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
42	Hambrick, Troy	RB	6-1	255	11/06/1976	2	Savannah State
22	Smith, Emmitt	RB	5-9	216	05/15/1969	12	Florida
36	Taylor, Tony	RB	5-9	191	03/09/1978	1	Northwestern State
44	Thomas, Robert	RB	6-1	273	12/01/1974	4	Henderson State
32	Wiley, Michael	RB	5-11	203	01/05/1978	2	Ohio State
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
85	Chiaverini, Darrin	WR	6-2	210	10/12/1977	3	Colorado
19	Flowers, Richmond	WR	5-11	192	05/04/1978	0	Chattanooga
84	Galloway, Joey	WR	5-11	197	11/20/1971	7	Ohio State
81	Ismail, Raghib	WR	5-11	183	11/18/1969	9	Notre Dame
15	Lucas, Anthony	WR	6-3	204	11/20/1976	0	Arkansas
86	Lucky, Mike	TE	6-6	273	11/23/1975	2	Arizona
87	Rambo, Ken-Yon	WR	6-0	195	10/04/1978	1	Ohio State
45	Robinson, Jeff	TE	6-4	275	02/20/1970	9	Idaho
80	Swinton, Reggie	WR	6-0	175	07/24/1975	1	Murray State
82	Whalen, James	TE	6-2	228	12/11/1977	1	Kentucky
84	Wheatley, Austin	TE	6-3	254	11/16/1977	1	Iowa
89	Williams, Randal	WR	6-3	214	05/24/1978	1	New Hampshire
18	Yamini, Bashir	WR	6-3	190	09/10/1977	1	Iowa
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
99	Blade, Willie	DT	6-3	314	02/07/1979	0	Mississippi State
70	Collins, Javier	DT	6-6	314	04/13/1978	0	Northwestern
96	Ekuban, Ebenezer	DE	6-3	282	05/29/1976	3	North Carolina
98	Ellis, Greg	DE	6-6	275	08/14/1975	4	North Carolina
92	Evans, Demetric	DE	6-3	286	09/03/1979	1	Georgia
90	Frisch, Byron	DE	6-5	267	12/17/1976	1	Brigham Young
97	Glover, La'Roi	DT	6-2	285	07/04/1974	6	San Diego State
72	Missouri, Dwayne	DE	6-5	260	12/23/1978	1	Northwestern
94	Myers, Michael	DT	6-2	292	01/20/1976	4	Alabama
60	Nix, John	DT	6-1	326	11/24/1976	1	Southern Mississippi
75	Noble, Brandon	NT	6-2	304	04/10/1974	3	Penn State
64	Stewart, Daleroy	DT	6-3	310	11/01/1978	0	Southern Mississippi
97	Weatherington, Colston	DE	6-5	265	10/29/1977	0	Central Missouri State
93	Zellner, Peppi	DE	6-5	262	03/14/1975	3	Fort Valley State
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
33	Bell, Jason	CB	6-0	182	04/01/1978	1	UCLA
24	Cris, Shad	CB	5-10	185	01/11/1976	1	Missouri
41	Dennis, Pat	CB	6-0	208	06/03/1978	2	Louisiana-Monroe
27	Dixon, Tony	S	6-1	213	06/18/1979	1	Alabama
27	Edwards, Mario	CB	6-0	191	12/01/1975	2	Florida State
23	Goodrich, Dwayne	CB	5-11	198	05/29/1978	1	Tennessee
38	Hawthorne, Duane	CB	5-10	175	08/26/1976	3	Northern Illinois
46	Johnson, Paris	S	6-3	220	01/18/1976	0	Miami (OH)
21	Scott, Lynn	S	6-0	210	06/23/1977	1	Northwestern Oklahoma State
32	Westbrook, Bryant	CB	6-0	198	12/19/1974	5	Texas
28	Woodson, Darren	S	6-1	219	04/25/1969	10	Arizona State
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
51	Adams, Keith	LB	5-10	220	11/22/1979	1	Clemson
50	Brooks, Jamal	LB	6-2	240	11/09/1976	1	Hampton
58	Cerqua, Marq	LB	6-2	223	04/03/1977	1	Carson-Newman
52	Coakley, Dexter	LB	5-10	230	10/20/1972	5	Appalachian State
56	Grant, Orantes	LB	6-0	230	03/18/1978	2	Georgia
51	Hardy, Kevin	LB	6-4	249	07/24/1973	6	Illinois
58	Mackey, Louis	LB	6-2	215	12/29/1977	1	Akron
59	Nguyen, Dat	LB	5-11	243	09/25/1975	3	Texas A&M
55	Steele, Markus	LB	6-2	240	07/24/1979	1	Southern California
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Knorr, Micah	P	6-2	199	01/09/1975	2	Utah State
6	Seder, Tim	K	5-9	197	09/17/1974	2	Ashland

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	8	Williams, Roy	S	6-0	219	08/14/1980	Oklahoma
2	5	Gurode, Andre	G	6-3	316	03/06/1978	Colorado
2	31	Bryant, Antonio	WR	6-1	188	03/09/1981	Pittsburgh
3	10	Ross, Derek	CB	5-11	192	01/05/1980	Ohio State
4	31	Martin, Jamar	RB	5-11	245	04/12/1980	Ohio State
5	33	Hunter, Ralph	CB	6-2	193	05/25/1980	Virginia Union
6	7	Walter, Tyson	T	6-5	303	03/17/1978	Ohio State
6	36	Johnson, De'Vere	WR	6-6	223	-----	Sacred Heart
6	39	Slowikowski, Bob	TE	6-5	255	10/30/1979	Virginia Tech



## Two years removed from a Super Bowl, Giants are in flux with a growing list of underachievers.

**T**urn out the lights, the party's over. The window the Giants opened briefly with their 2000 NFC title has slammed shut. The Eagles passed them last year in the NFC East. The Giants are supplanting the Redskins and Cowboys for intramural turmoil. Coach Jim Fassel, on top only two

seasons ago, finds himself scrambling for job security in the midst of unhappy campers. It's a formula for disaster, although in today's volatile NFL atmosphere, things can change as quickly as a replay turning a fumble into an incomplete pass.

After a marvelous, record-setting season of sacks, defensive end Michael Strahan's refused to restructure his huge contract. Already reeling from a disappointing 7-9 season after their Super Bowl loss to Baltimore, the Giants began their offseason on an ominous note when Strahan criticized General Manager Ernie Accorsi and accused him of trying to trade him. Running back Tiki Barber criticized Strahan, and defensive tackle Keith Hamilton criticized Barber.

Accorsi criticized all the naysayers, citing the recent history of the New England Patriots and Pittsburgh Steelers as examples of consistency amid constant change. If the Giants are to remain in the thick of things, it will be without some very familiar characters.

Outspoken linebacker/leader Jessie Armstead went to Washington and veteran offensive linemen Ron Stone, Lomas Brown and Glenn Parker are gone to make way for younger, cheaper players. Defensive coordinator John Fox is now head man at Carolina.

### OFFENSE

Quarterback Kerry Collins slipped to a middle-of-the-pack passer and the team blew five fourth-quarter leads last year, including consecutive one-point losses to St. Louis and Philadelphia. The closeness on the scoreboard did little to promote closeness in the locker room, where teams must learn to meld each season. Already, clutch receiver Ike Hilliard, Collins'



The versatile Tiki Barber, who caught a career-high 72 passes last season, accounted for 1,782 total yards in 2001, the third-highest total in Giants history.

top touchdown target, is making noise about this being his final fling in New York.

Collins will be trying to earn a long-term contract because his deal expires after this season. Second-year prospect Jesse Palmer will get some looks in training camp, but nobody expects the kind of surprising breakthrough untested Tom Brady made in New England in his second camp.

Barber and Ron Dayne will continue to share the running load provided either can get along without blocking fullback Greg Comella, who signed with Tennessee. Dayne showed flashes of his potential early last season and recorded the longest run on the team of 61 yards. But the Giants' ranking as the league's 15th rushing team was a drop and the running game cannot sustain the play-action offense Fassel wants.

The loss of third receiver Joe Jurevicius to Tampa puts added pressure on Amani Toomer and Hilliard and third-year prospect Ron Dixon to either show up bigger or ship out. The addition of tight end Jeremy Shockey from Miami was so important the Giants traded their fourth-round pick just to move up one spot and prevent anybody else from grabbing him in the first round. Shockey must open up the offense. The



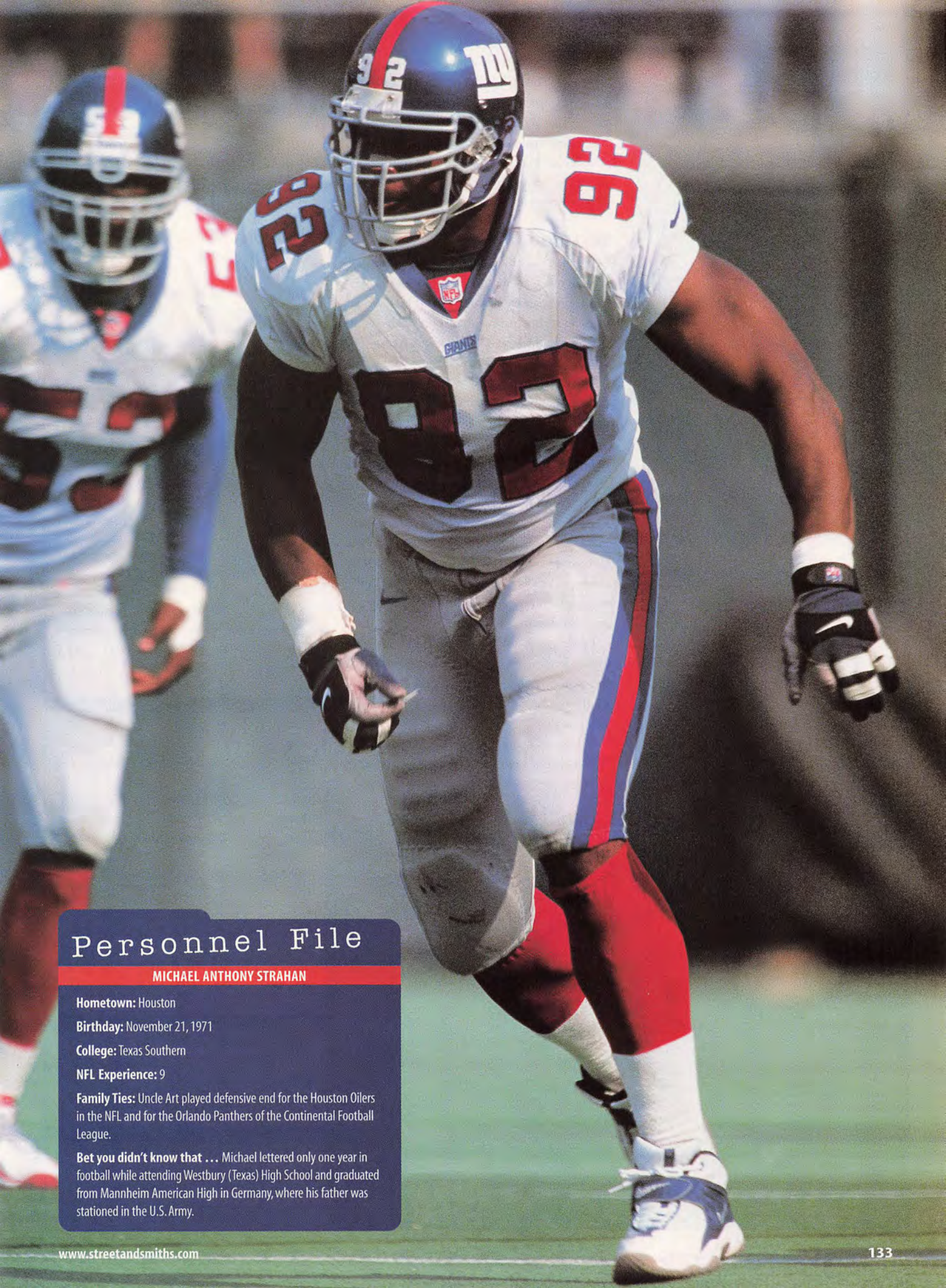
Despite missing three games, veteran right cornerback Jason Sehorn led the Giants in passes defended with 16.

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	333.4	9	TOTAL DEFENSE	310.9	14
RUSHING	111.1	15	AGAINST RUSH	96.6	8
PASSING	222.4	8T	AGAINST PASS	214.4	21
SCORING	294	21T	PTS. ALLOWED	321	16T
PUNT RETURNS	8.0	24	INTERCEPTIONS	15	22
KICK RETURNS	17.7	31	SACKS	46	5
RED ZONE TD %	-51.2	12	TURNOVER DIFF.	-1	16T







## Personnel File

**MICHAEL ANTHONY STRAHAN**

**Hometown:** Houston

**Birthday:** November 21, 1971

**College:** Texas Southern

**NFL Experience:** 9

**Family Ties:** Uncle Art played defensive end for the Houston Oilers in the NFL and for the Orlando Panthers of the Continental Football League.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Michael lettered only one year in football while attending Westbury (Texas) High School and graduated from Mannheim American High in Germany, where his father was stationed in the U.S. Army.





Kerry Collins became the first player in NFL history to throw every pass for the same team in two consecutive seasons last season. The Penn State iron man has thrown 1,371 regular-season passes with the Giants.

Rich Seubert and Jason Whittle are taking over at the guard spots. Chris Bober will replace Brown at the important left tackle position unless right tackle Luke Petitgout moves to the left side and Mike Rosenthal takes over at right tackle. Third-rounder Jeff Hatch of Penn also is a starting candidate at left tackle. Holdover center Dusty Zeigler remains the glue in the middle.

## DEFENSE

Strahan insists his bumpy offseason ride will smooth out as soon as the Giants open their season against San Francisco in the NFL's Thursday opening-night experiment. All eyes will be on the defensive end whose 22.5 sacks set a record. The celebration was short-lived because Green Bay quarterback Brett Favre was accused of taking a dive on the record-breaking sack, leaving a sour taste in the mouths of many NFL purists.

Overall, Strahan's outstanding season could not be blemished. He'll turn only 31 during the season, so he remains in his prime. If he plays with a chip on his shoulder, he will again be a force. Kenny Holmes was a bit of a disappointment at right defensive end. Hamilton and Cornelius Griffin should be a formidable force inside, especially if Griffin can shake the ankle injury that slowed him in his disappointing second year. Depth is a concern.

Experience is the concern at linebacker with Dhani Jones replacing team leader Armstead at linebacker. Leading tackler Micheal Barrow and third-year man Brandon Short return as the other starters.

Second-year cornerbacks Will Allen and Will Peterson could both start and push Jason Sehorn

Giants added Auburn wide receiver Tim Carter with their second pick and Miami backup Daryl Jones in the seventh to address a critical need.

Up front, the line must reload with younger bodies, unlike the blueprint of two years ago when Fassel made do with wily veterans. Young

## PROJECTED STARTERS



# GIANTS

## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 7, Lost 9

DATE	SCORE		
09/10	L 20-31	at Denver	
09/23	W 13-3	at Kansas City	
09/30	W 21-13	New Orleans	
10/07	W 23-9	Washington	
10/14	L 14-15	at St. Louis	
10/22	L 9-10	Philadelphia	
10/28	L 21-35	at Washington	
11/04	W 27-24	Dallas	
11/11	W 17-10	at Arizona	
11/19	L 16-28	at Minnesota	
11/25	L 10-28	Oakland	
12/09	L 13-20	at Dallas	
12/15	W 17-13	Arizona	
12/23	W 27-24	Seattle	
12/30	L 21-24	at Philadelphia	
01/06	L 25-34	Green Bay	

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Barber	166	865	5.2	36	4
Dayne	180	690	3.8	61	7
Washington	28	89	3.2	22	0
Collings	39	73	1.9	11	0
Hilliard	1	21	21.0	21	0
Williams	2	16	8.0	11	0
Comella	4	15	3.8	9	0
Toomer	3	8	2.7	9	0
Dixon	1	0	0	0	0

Team	424	1777	4.2	61	11
Opponents	428	1545	3.6	44	7

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Toomer	72	1054	14.6	60	5
Barber	72	577	8.0	44	0
Hilliard	52	659	12.7	38	6
Jurevicius	51	706	13.8	46	3
Comella	39	253	6.5	26	1
Campbell	13	148	11.4	25	1
Dixon	8	227	28.4	62	1
Dayne	8	67	8.4	21	0
Washington	4	25	6.3	16	0
Davis	3	34	11.3	20	0
Rivers	3	11	3.7	8	2
Cross	1	5	5.0	5	0

Team	327	3764	11.5	76	19
Opponents	298	3750	12.6	76	25

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Collins	568	327	3764	19	16
Team	568	327	3764	19	16
Opponents	521	298	3750	25	15

## SACKS

Strahan 22.5, Barrow 6.0, Hamilton 6.0, Holmes 3.5, Griffin 2.5, Armstead 1.5, Ferrara 1.0, Sehorn 1.0, Short 1.0, Williams 1.0

Giants 46.0, Opponents 36.0





What few sacks were left over after Michael Strahan's 22.5, defensive tackle Keith Hamilton picked up last season with six.

to safety unless Sehorn returns healthy and ready to regain the form that has deserted him. If Sehorn moves to free safety, it could make the move of Shaun Williams to strong safety easier to swallow. Williams is expected to replace departed Sam Garnes and take advantage of his aggressive style closer to the line of scrimmage. Omar Stoutmire will start at free safety if Sehorn doesn't.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

The Giants let ancient Morten Andersen move on, so the placekicking duties fall to Owen Pochman, with the spectacular Rodney Williams hoping to become a more consistent punter in his second season as the regular. Barber and Dixon continue to handle the return duties.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 5	SAN FRANCISCO	8:30
September 15	at St. Louis	4:05
September 22	SEATTLE	4:15
September 29	at Arizona	4:05
October 6	at Dallas	1:00
October 13	ATLANTA	1:00
October 20	OPEN DATE	
October 28	at Philadelphia	9:00
November 3	JACKSONVILLE	8:30
November 10	at Minnesota	1:00
November 17	WASHINGTON	1:00
November 24	at Houston	4:15
December 1	TENNESSEE	1:00
December 8	at Washington	1:00
December 15	DALLAS	4:15
December 22	at Indianapolis	1:00
December 28	PHILADELPHIA	1:30

All times Eastern

## NEW YORK GIANTS

Jim Fassel, head coach

Dave Brazil, senior defensive analyst; John Dunn, strength and conditioning;

Johnny Lynn, defensive coordinator; Denny Marcin, defensive line; Jim McNally, offensive line;

Tom Olivadotti, linebackers; Sean Payton, offensive coordinator; Michael Pope, tight ends;

Jay Robertson, offensive quality control; Jimmy Robinson, wide receivers;

Craig Stoddard, asst. strength and conditioning; Eric Studesville, running backs; DeWayne Walker, defensive backs;

Rod Rust, defensive quality control; Bruce Read, special teams

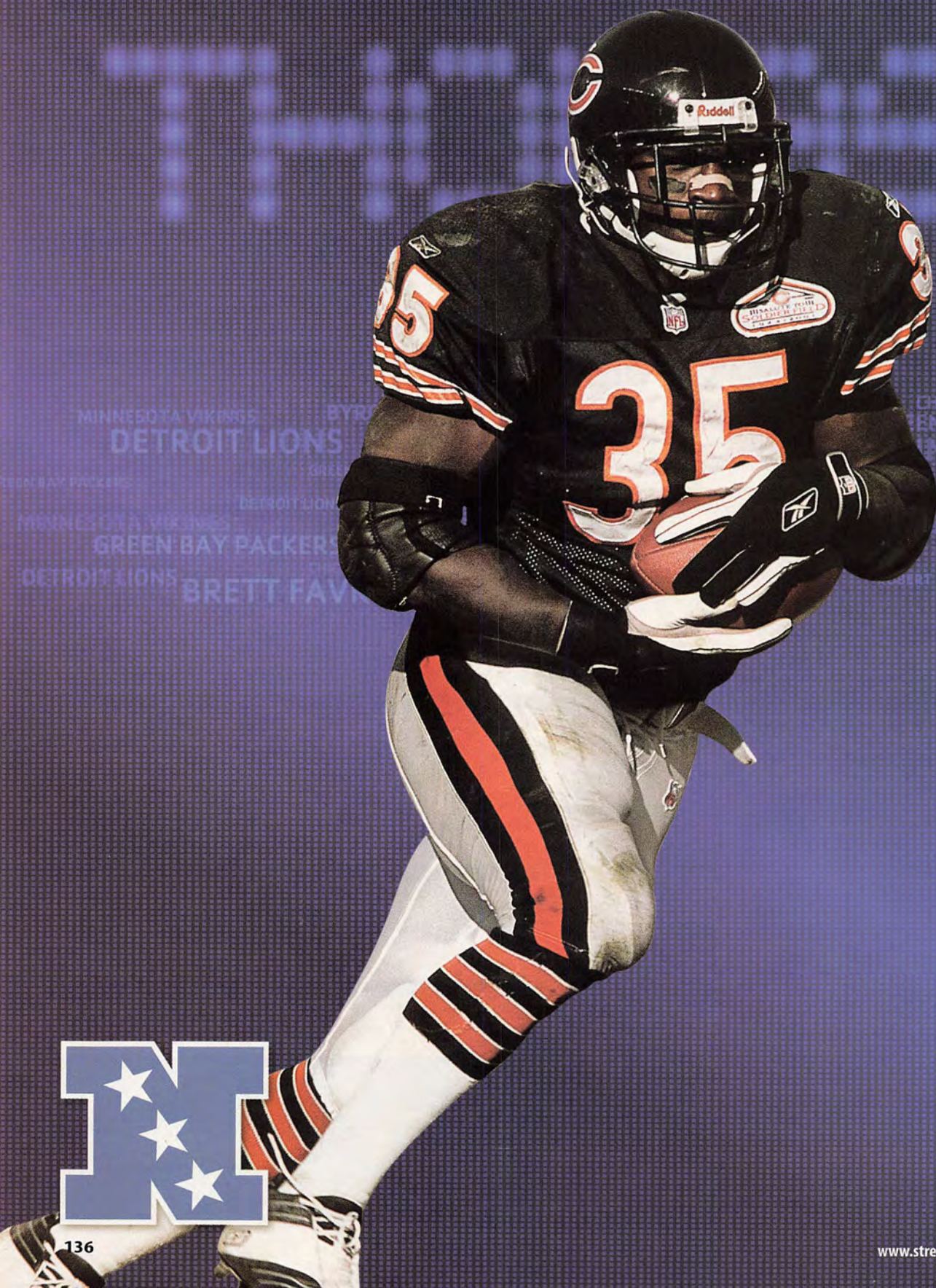
#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
5	Collins, Kerry	QB	6-5	245	12/30/1972	7	Penn State
3	Palmer, Jesse	QB	6-2	219	10/05/1978	0	Florida
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
67	Bober, Chris	T	6-5	305	12/24/1976	1	Nebraska-Omaha
62	Parker, Glenn	G	6-5	312	04/22/1966	12	Arizona
77	Petitgout, Luke	T	6-6	310	06/16/1976	3	Notre Dame
78	Rosenthal, Mike	G	6-7	315	06/10/1977	3	Notre Dame
69	Seubert, Rich	T	6-5	295	03/30/1979	1	Western Illinois
66	Whittle, Jason	G	6-4	305	03/07/1975	4	Southwest Missouri State
52	Zeigler, Dusty	C	6-5	305	09/27/1973	6	Notre Dame
74	Ziemann, Chris	T	6-7	315	09/20/1976	1	Michigan
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
21	Barber, Tiki	RB	5-10	200	04/07/1975	5	Virginia
44	Bennett, Sean	RB	6-1	230	11/09/1975	1	Northwestern
27	Dayne, Ron	RB	5-10	253	03/14/1978	2	Wisconsin
44	Green, Anthony	RB	6-2	245	08/13/1977	0	West Virginia
29	Washington, Damon	RB	5-11	193	02/20/1977	2	Colorado State
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
89	Campbell, Daniel	TE	6-5	260	04/13/1976	3	Texas A&M
	Carter, Jonathan	WR	5-11	180	03/20/1979	1	Troy State
82	Davis, Thabiti	WR	6-2	205	03/24/1975	2	Wake Forest
86	Dixon, Ron	WR	6-0	190	05/28/1976	2	Lambuth
88	Hilliard, Ike	WR	5-11	195	04/05/1976	5	Florida
83	Rivers, Marcellus	TE	6-4	231	10/26/1978	1	Oklahoma State
81	Toomer, Amani	WR	6-3	208	09/08/1974	6	Michigan
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
95	Ferrara, Frank	DE	6-3	270	12/07/1975	1	Rhode Island
97	Griffin, Cornelius	DT	6-3	300	12/03/1976	2	Alabama
75	Hamilton, Keith	DT	6-6	295	05/25/1971	10	Pittsburgh
90	Holmes, Kenny	DE	6-4	270	10/24/1973	5	Miami (FL)
62	Johnson, Dwight	DE	6-4	285	01/30/1977	1	Baylor
99	Kolodziej, Ross	DT	6-2	287	05/11/1978	1	Wisconsin
70	Legree, Lance	DT	6-1	285	12/22/1977	1	Notre Dame
96	Scott, Cedric	DE	6-5	274	10/19/1977	1	Southern Mississippi
92	Strahan, Michael	DE	6-5	275	11/21/1971	9	Texas Southern
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
25	Allen, Will	CB	5-10	192	08/05/1978	1	Syracuse
22	Brown, Ralph	CB	5-10	185	09/09/1978	2	Nebraska
35	LeBlanc, Clarence	CB	6-3	200	03/26/1977	0	LSU
28	Patmon, Dwayne	S	6-0	190	04/25/1979	1	Michigan
24	Peterson, Will	CB	6-0	197	06/15/1979	1	Western Illinois
31	Sehorn, Jason	CB	6-2	215	04/15/1971	7	Southern California
23	Stoutmire, Omar	S	5-11	198	07/09/1974	5	Fresno State
36	Williams, Shaun	S	6-2	215	10/10/1976	4	UCLA
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
58	Barrow, Micheal	LB	6-2	240	04/19/1970	9	Miami (FL)
55	Jones, Dhani	LB	6-1	240	02/22/1978	1	Michigan
59	Lewis, Kevin	LB	6-1	230	10/06/1978	2	Duke
53	Short, Brandon	LB	6-3	255	07/11/1977	2	Penn State
57	White, Clayton	LB	5-11	225	12/02/1977	1	North Carolina State
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Lindstrom, Gabe	P	6-4	220	05/25/1976	0	Toledo
9	Pochman, Owen	K	5-11	177	08/02/1977	1	Brigham Young
2	Williams, Rodney	P	6-0	178	04/25/1977	1	Georgia Tech

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	14	Shockey, Jeremy	TE	6-4	255	08/18/1980	Miami (FL)
2	14	Carter, Tim	WR	5-11	190	09/21/1979	Auburn
3	13	Hatch, Jeff	T	6-6	296	09/28/1979	Pennsylvania
5	17	Greisen, Nick	LB	6-1	233	08/10/1979	Wisconsin
6	16	Mallard, Wesly	S	6-2	221	11/21/1978	Oregon
7	15	Jones, Daryl	WR	5-9	180	02/02/1979	Miami (FL)
7	34	Monk, Quincy	LB	6-3	242	01/30/1979	North Carolina



# NFC NORTH











All-Madden running back Ahman Green (top) finished second in the NFC in rushing yards (1,387) and total yards from scrimmage (1,981) last season. Below, selected as a starter in his first Pro Bowl, Bubba Franks led all NFL tight ends with nine touchdowns last season.

## With Sherman reloading Packers' offensive tanks, a Super Bowl trip really isn't that Favre-fetched.

**M**otivated by the lingering specter of Brett Favre's six interceptions in a divisional playoff loss at St. Louis, Packers General Manager and coach Mike Sherman attacked the offseason with a passion. It was not to chastise Favre; it was to surround him with more help—on offense and defense.

Sherman knows he's not going to have the 32-year-old, rifle-armed Favre forever, so the Packers must do everything they can to get back to their 1996-97 Super Bowl ways. With Favre around, the trip back seems far less daunting—six interceptions notwithstanding. Favre's reaction to his unfortunate swan song a year ago was classic. He said he probably would have thrown seven interceptions if he had the time to keep taking the chances necessary to catch the Rams. Interceptions never will intimidate Favre.

Young receivers don't bother Favre, either, and it's a good thing. The Packers are making a concerted effort to get better at a position vital to Favre's effectiveness. Sherman took the gamble of the offseason in acquiring New England's talented but troubled Terry Glenn. Suspended for nearly all of the Patriots' Super Bowl season for a combination of disciplinary problems, Glenn is a superstar when he's on the field but a super risk off it. Sherman will keep his fingers crossed that Glenn will be dedicated to resurrecting his promising career.

### OFFENSE

Favre is so durable the Packers take him for granted. Although they have drafted quarterbacks Mark Brunell, Ty Detmer, Aaron Brooks and Matt Hasselbeck over the years, all have been traded and Favre's backup is journeyman Doug

Pederson. They appeared to reach in drafting fifth-rounder Craig Nall from Division I-AA Northwestern State, but with their track record for spotting quarterbacks, who knows?

The Packers let starting receiver Bill Schroeder go to Detroit in free agency, and the future of Antonio Freeman remains in doubt, so Sherman spent not only his first-round pick but traded his second to move up in round one to select Florida State receiver Javon Walker. Since last year's second-round draft choice, Robert Ferguson, failed to show much as a rookie, the pressure doubles on Walker to fill the starting spot opposite Glenn. Corey Bradford also left for Houston, so Donald Driver or Charles Lee must fill the void.

Tight end Bubba Franks caught nine touchdown passes in his second season and developed into the red-zone target Favre always has favored in his tight ends. David Martin is expected to continue his development as a receiving threat, and Tyrone Davis also returns.

Ahman Green has become one of the top running backs in the league, thanks to former Packers coach Mike Holmgren, who traded him from Seattle two years ago as one final parting gift. Green Bay will be eternally grateful because Green has surpassed all expectations both as a runner and receiver. Re-signing fullback William Henderson enabled Sherman to retain his starting backfield. If Dorsey Levens leaves, Rondell Mealey and Herbert Goodman get their chance as backups. Fourth-round fullback Najeh Davenport also will help.

The Packers also kept their young, strong offensive line intact by re-signing guard Mike Wahle. They lost backup tackle Barry Stokes to Cleveland, but starting tackles Chad Clifton and Mark Tauscher, guards Wahle and Marco Rivera and center Mike Flanagan form a top-flight unit that might even outlast Favre. Bill Ferrario, Frank Winters and Earl Dotson are excellent backups.

### DEFENSE

When free agency began in 1993, the Packers' signing of defensive end Reggie White from

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	341.4	6	TOTAL DEFENSE	308.6	12
RUSHING	105.8	21	AGAINST RUSH	110.6	16
PASSING	235.6	3	AGAINST PASS	198.0	15
SCORING	390	5	PTS. ALLOWED	266	5
PUNT RETURNS	7.6	28	INTERCEPTIONS	20	13
KICK RETURNS	18.7	30	SACKS	52	4
RED ZONE TD %	57.4	3	TURNOVER DIFF.	+12	5





# Personnel File

## BRETT LORENZO FAVRE

**Hometown:** Kiln, Mississippi

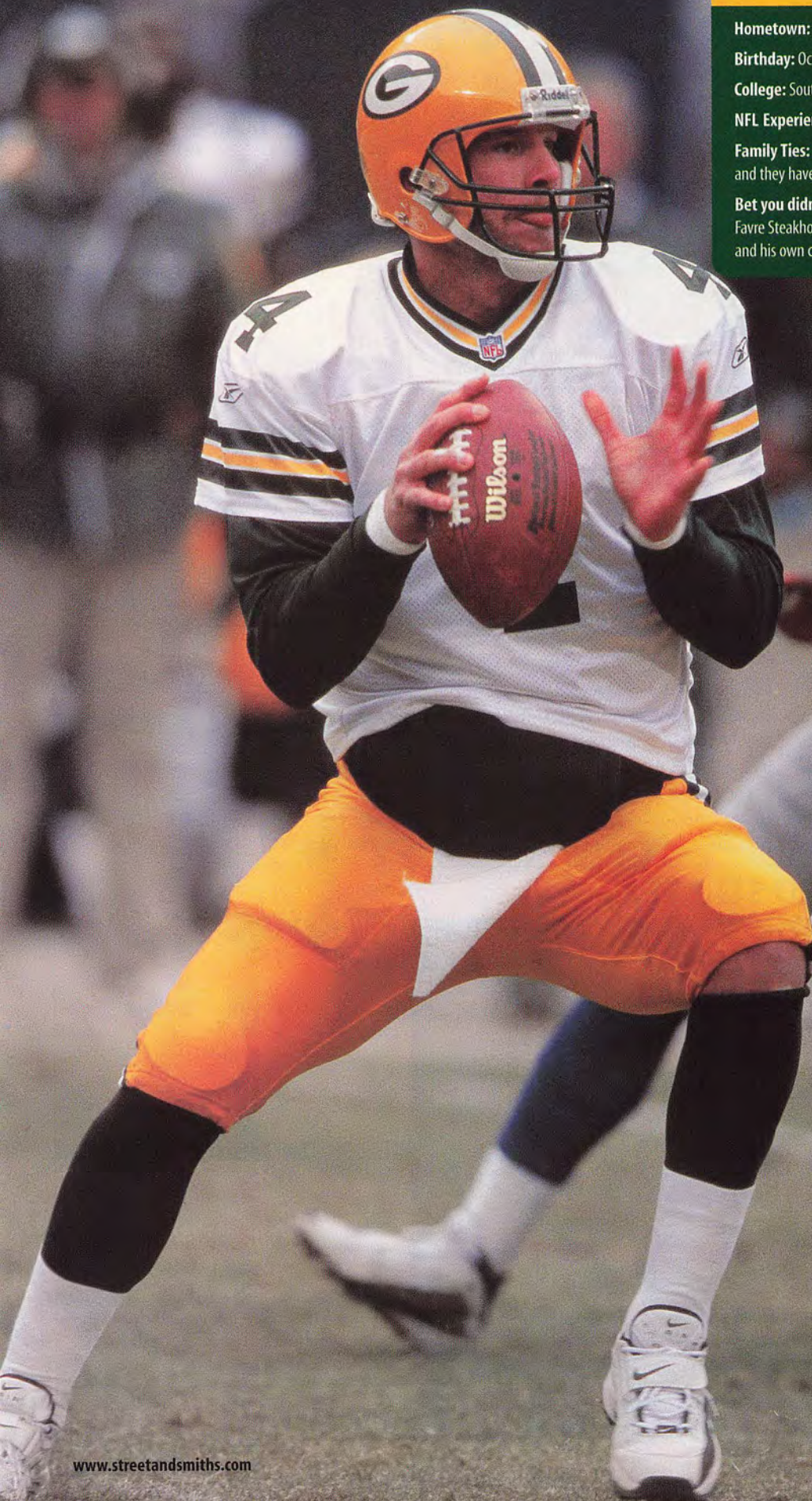
**Birthday:** October 10, 1969

**College:** Southern Mississippi

**NFL Experience:** 11

**Family Ties:** Brett married Deanna Tynes after 12 years of courtship and they have one daughter, Brittany, 13.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** In 1997 Brett opened the Brett Favre Steakhouse in Milwaukee. He also has his own line of clothing and his own candy bar, the Brett Favre MVP Bar.







Darren Sharper (42), who has the most interceptions in the NFL over the last two seasons (15), enters his fifth year as the Packers' starter at free safety. Entering his 11th season as the Packers' starting strong safety, LeRoy Butler (36) needs just two interceptions to become the first player in NFL history to record 40 career interceptions and 20 career sacks.

Philadelphia was the first big salvo. It was heralded as the addition that changed the Packers from contender to champions. Few free-agent signings anywhere since have had the same impact. Since White retired from the Packers three years ago, they have struggled to replace him. This year they hope they have done it.

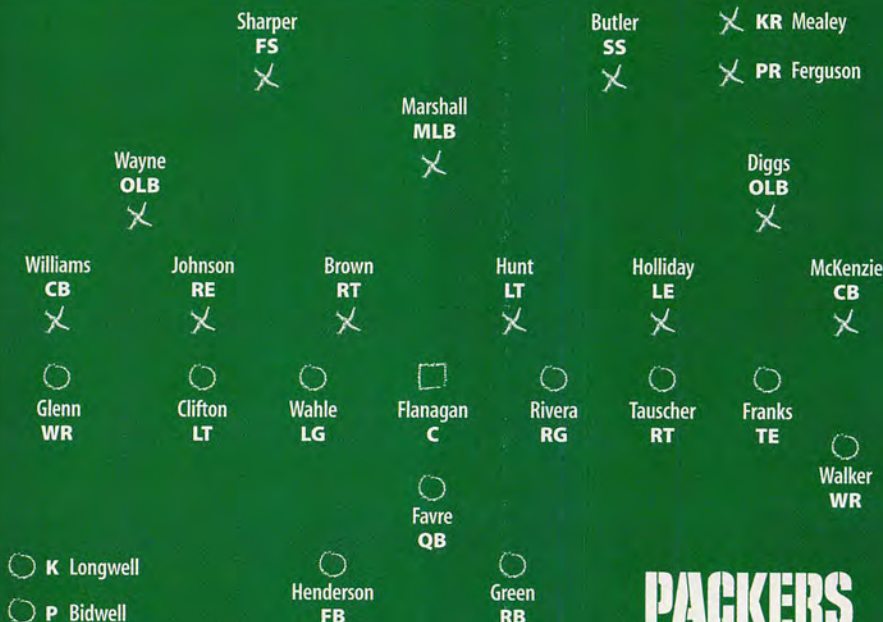
In signing Joe Johnson from New Orleans for a \$6 million bonus, the Packers added one of the league's best, albeit unheralded, defensive ends. Strong against both the run and pass, Johnson will complement Vonnie Holliday and give the Packers their best pair of ends since the days of

White and Sean Jones. Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila led the club with 13.5 sacks as a rush specialist. Fifth-rounder Aaron Kampman joins last year's No. 1 pick, Jamal Reynolds, and Billy Lyon on the depth chart.

Defensive coordinator Ed Donatell will move Cletidus Hunt to tackle full-time to replace Santana Dotson. Hunt and Gilbert Brown, backed by Rod Walker and Steve Warren, will beef up the inside.

The Packers can only hope second-year line-backer Torrance Marshall is ready to replace Bernardo Harris in the middle. Nate Wayne and

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 12, Lost 4

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 28-6	Detroit
09/24	W 37-0	Washington
09/30	W 28-7	at Carolina
10/07	L 10-14	at Tampa Bay
10/14	W 31-23	Baltimore
10/21	L 13-35	at Minnesota
11/04	W 21-20	Tampa Bay
11/11	W 20-12	at Chicago
11/18	L 20-23	Atlanta
11/22	W 29-27	at Detroit
12/03	W 28-21	at Jacksonville
12/09	W 17-7	Chicago
12/16	L 20-26	at Tennessee
12/23	W 30-7	Cleveland
12/30	W 24-13	Minnesota
01/06	W 34-25	at N.Y. Giants

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Green	304	1387	4.6	83	9
Levens	44	165	3.8	40	0
Favre	38	56	1.5	14	1
Driver	3	38	12.7	31	1
Mealey	11	37	3.4	9	0
Henderson	6	11	1.8	4	0
Schroeder	1	6	6.0	6	0

Team	410	1693	4.1	83t	11
Opponents	406	1769	4.4	61	10

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Green	62	594	9.6	42	2
Schroeder	53	918	17.3	67	9
A. Freeman	52	818	15.7	63	6
Franks	36	322	8.9	31	9
Bradford	31	526	17.0	56	2
Levens	24	159	6.6	19	1
Henderson	21	193	9.2	26	0
Driver	13	167	12.8	37	1
Martin	13	144	11.1	31	1
Lee	3	32	10.7	23	1
T. Davis	3	14	4.7	7	0
Mealey	2	31	15.5	19	0
Collins	1	3	3.0	3	0

Team	314	3291	12.5	67t	32
Opponents	341	3505	10.3	47t	14

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Favre	510	314	3921	32	15
Team	510	314	3921	32	15
Opponents	583	341	3505	14	20

### SACKS

Gbaja-Biamila 13.5, Holliday 7.0, Wayne 5.5, Flanigan 4.5, Dotson 3.5, Thierry 3.5, Harris 2.5, Diggs 2.0, Lyon 2.0, McBride 2.0, Reynolds 2.0, Sharper 2.0, Butler 1.0

Packers 52.0, Opponents 22.0

# PACKERS





Starting all 16 games for the second time in his career, Vonnie Holliday led the Packers' linemen in tackles with a career-high 81 last season.

Na'il Diggs are the outside starters, but linebacker is a position where the Packers are thin. Rob Holmberg returns as a reserve.

Cornerbacks Mike McKenzie and Tyrone Williams return as starters, backed by Tod McBride and Bhawoh Jue, who filled in for injured LeRoy Butler as a rookie. If Butler returns healthy from a shoulder injury, he will pair with Darren Sharper in a solid, deep middle. If not, Antuan Edwards is the heir apparent. McBride is a competent nickel back.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Placekicker Ryan Longwell and punter Josh Bidwell return. The loss of return man Allen Rossum leaves the Packers scrambling for help there. McBride, Ferguson, Goodman and Mealey will battle it out to handle kickoffs and punts.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	ATLANTA	1:00
September 15	at New Orleans	1:00
September 22	at Detroit	4:15
September 29	CAROLINA	1:00
October 7	at Chicago	9:00
October 13	at New England	1:00
October 20	WASHINGTON	4:15
October 27	OPEN DATE	
November 4	MIAMI	9:00
November 10	DETROIT	1:00
November 17	at Minnesota	1:00
November 24	at Tampa Bay	1:00
December 1	CHICAGO	1:00
December 8	MINNESOTA	8:30
December 15	at San Francisco	4:15
December 22	BUFFALO	1:00
December 29	at NY Jets	4:15

All times Eastern

## GREEN BAY PACKERS

Mike Sherman, head coach

Larry Beightol, offensive line; Darrell Bevell, offensive assistant; Sylvester Croom, running backs; Ed Donatell, defensive coordinator; Jetho Franklin, defensive line; Jeff Jagodzinski, tight ends; Frank Novak, special teams; Bo Pelini, linebackers; Tom Rossley, offensive coordinator; Barry Rubin, strength and conditioning; Ray Sherman, wide receivers; Bob Slowik, asst. head coach/defensive backs; Lionel Washington, asst. defensive backs; Stan Drayton, quality control asst. (special teams/offense); Pat Ruel, asst. offensive line; Brad Miller, defensive asst./quality control; Matt Lovat, asst. strength and conditioning

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Favre, Brett	QB	6-2	225	10/10/1969	11	Southern Mississippi
	Heupel, Josh	QB	6-1	215	03/22/1978	0	Oklahoma
18	Pederson, Doug	QB	6-3	220	01/31/1968	7	Northeast Louisiana
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
76	Clifton, Chad	T	6-5	327	06/26/1976	2	Tennessee
60	Davis, Robert	C	6-3	286	12/10/1968	6	Shippensburg
72	Dotson, Earl	T	6-4	317	12/17/1970	9	Texas A&I
63	Ferrario, Bill	G	6-2	315	09/22/1978	0	Wisconsin
58	Flanagan, Mike	C	6-5	297	11/10/1973	4	UCLA
62	Rivera, Marco	G	6-4	310	04/26/1972	5	Penn State
65	Tauscher, Mark	T	6-3	320	06/17/1977	2	Wisconsin
68	Wahle, Mike	G	6-6	310	03/29/1977	4	Navy
52	Winters, Frank	C	6-3	305	01/23/1964	15	Western Illinois
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
34	Brown, Reggie	RB	6-0	244	06/26/1973	5	Fresno State
29	Goodman, Herbert	RB	5-11	205	08/31/1977	2	Graceland College
30	Green, Ahman	RB	6-0	217	02/16/1977	4	Nebraska
33	Henderson, William	RB	6-1	253	02/19/1971	7	North Carolina
40	McLeod, Kevin	RB	6-0	250	10/17/1974	1	Auburn
32	Mealey, Rondell	RB	6-0	224	02/24/1977	1	LSU
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
83	Bailey, Karsten	WR	5-10	201	04/26/1977	2	Auburn
81	Davis, Tyrone	TE	6-4	260	06/30/1972	7	Virginia
80	Driver, Donald	WR	6-0	185	02/02/1975	3	Alcorn State
89	Ferguson, Robert	WR	6-1	209	12/17/1979	1	Texas A&M
88	Franks, Bubba	TE	6-6	260	01/06/1978	2	Miami (FL)
86	Freeman, Antonio	WR	6-1	198	05/27/1972	7	Virginia Tech
84	French, Rufus	TE	6-3	257	03/15/1978	0	Mississippi
88	Glenn, Terry	WR	5-11	195	07/23/1974	6	Ohio State
86	Hayes, Windrell	WR	5-11	198	12/14/1976	2	Southern California
10	Hood, Kerry	WR	6-0	196	12/16/1976	0	South Carolina
82	Lee, Charles	WR	6-2	205	11/19/1977	2	Central Florida
83	Martin, David	TE	6-3	250	03/13/1979	1	Tennessee
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
93	Brown, Gilbert	NT	6-2	339	02/22/1971	8	Kansas
97	Fields, Aaron	DE	6-4	243	01/09/1976	1	Troy State
94	Gbaja-Biamila, Kabere	DE	6-4	253	09/24/1977	2	San Diego State
90	Holliday, Vonnie	DE	6-5	290	12/11/1975	4	North Carolina
97	Hunt, Cletidus	DE	6-4	299	01/02/1976	3	Kent State
94	Johnson, Joe	DE	6-4	270	07/11/1972	7	Louisville
78	Keneley, Matt	DT	6-5	284	12/01/1973	1	Southern California
98	Lyon, Billy	DE	6-5	295	12/10/1973	4	Marshall
99	Reynolds, Jamal	DE	6-3	266	02/20/1979	1	Florida State
77	Tomich, Jared	DT	6-2	272	04/24/1974	4	Nebraska
95	Walker, Rod	DT	6-3	320	08/09/1973	1	Troy State
95	Warren, Steve	DT	6-1	298	01/22/1978	1	Nebraska
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
28	Bowen, Matt	S	6-1	208	11/12/1976	2	Iowa
36	Butler, LeRoy	S	6-0	204	07/19/1968	12	Florida State
27	Darden, Tony	CB	6-0	190	08/11/1975	1	Texas Tech
24	Edwards, Antuan	CB	6-1	210	05/26/1977	3	Clemson
47	Frost, Scott	S	6-3	219	01/04/1975	4	Nebraska
21	Jue, Bhawoh	CB	6-0	200	05/24/1979	1	Penn State
27	McBride, Tod	CB	6-1	205	01/26/1976	3	UCLA
34	McKenzie, Mike	CB	6-0	190	04/26/1976	3	Memphis
42	Sharper, Darren	S	6-2	207	11/03/1975	5	William & Mary
22	Thibodeaux, Keith	CB	5-10	189	05/16/1974	4	Northwest Louisiana
37	Williams, Tyrone	CB	5-11	193	05/31/1973	6	Nebraska
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
59	Diggs, Na'il	LB	6-4	238	07/08/1978	2	Ohio State
57	Gizzi, Chris	LB	6-0	235	03/08/1975	2	Air Force
56	Holmberg, Rob	LB	6-3	240	05/06/1971	8	Penn State
51	Marshall, Torrance	LB	6-2	255	06/12/1977	1	Oklahoma
54	Wayne, Nate	LB	6-0	237	01/12/1975	4	Mississippi
50	Williams, K.D.	LB	6-0	245	04/22/1973	3	Henderson State
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
9	Bidwell, Josh	P	6-3	220	03/13/1976	2	Oregon
8	Longwell, Ryan	K	6-0	200	08/16/1974	5	California

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	20	Walker, Javon	WR	6-2	210	10/14/1978	Florida State
3	27	Anderson, Marques	S	5-11	213	05/26/1979	UCLA
4	37	Davenport, Najeh	RB	6-1	248	02/08/1979	Miami (FL)
5	21	Kampman, Aaron	DT	6-4	285	11/30/1979	Iowa
5	29	Nall, Craig	QB	6-2	226	04/21/1979	Northwestern State
6	28	Houghton, Mike	G	6-5	313	12/01/1979	San Diego State



## Much of '02 success will depend on how 'Champaign-Urbana Bears' adjust to life on the road.

Coming off a shocking 13-3 season leaves the Bears little room to improve, or so it would appear. Their fans are still trying to figure out exactly how coach Dick Jauron jumped from the guillotine of back-to-back losing seasons into the playoffs without much visible means of support.

A second-round running back named Anthony Thomas, who started only 10 games, was Offensive Rookie of the Year, joining the Defensive Rookie of the Year from the previous

season, Brian Urlacher. Presto, a 5-11 team was transformed into 13-3. Their quarterback, Jim Miller, started the season on the bench, and their best receiver, Marcus Robinson, played only five games before being shelved by a knee injury.

Jauron acknowledged an element of luck, including back-to-back overtime wins against San Francisco and Cleveland on tipped interceptions returned for touchdowns by safety Mike Brown. But it was more than luck that left Brown and his teammates in the right place at the right time with enough frequency to win the NFC Central Division.

Rivals can peruse the roster and discover that the Bears have collected a fairly nice complement of talent on offense and defense. It's thanks mostly to the efforts of former personnel director Mark Hatley, who was run out of town because his bonanza picks of Thomas and Urlacher were preceded by busts Cade McNown and Curtis Enis.

New General Manager Jerry Angelo arrived as the beneficiary of Hatley's work and has been smart enough not to disassemble it. Jauron gets the credit for molding the parts into a solid team and will be especially challenged this season when the Bears move their home games 140 miles south of Chicago to the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana while Soldier Field is being rebuilt.

### OFFENSE

After a thorough thrashing by the Eagles in Chicago in the divisional playoff, the Bears quickly returned to earth and decided they needed help

*Jim Miller's QB rating of 76.3 already is third in Bears history behind Jim McMahon and Erik Kramer.*



Anthony Thomas led all NFC rookies with 1,183 rushing yards last season, establishing a new Bears record in the process.

in a couple of areas—mainly quarterback and quarterback chaser. Angelo addressed the first problem by signing the premier quarterback on the free-agent market, 36-year-old Chris Chandler of the Falcons.

Chandler arrives with the understanding that Miller is the incumbent and there will be no open competition. But he also arrives in the knowledge that neither Miller nor Chandler ever has completed an entire season without injury. Chandler's arm is a decided upgrade over last year's valuable backup, Shane Matthews. Former Canadian Leaguer Henry Burris is also on the roster.

It was Thomas and his 1,183 yards and seven touchdowns that made the Bears' offense go last season. Chicago had a 1,000-yard rusher the year before in James Allen (now in Houston), but Allen did not threaten and pound defenses the way the 230-pound Thomas does. Leon Johnson is a nice complementary back, and sixth-round draft pick Adrian Peterson is intriguing. Special-teams back Rabi Abdullah was added from Tampa. Fullback Daimon Shelton will miss the first three games with a suspension and will be replaced by Stanley Pritchett.

With Robinson out, Miller quickly developed great rapport with receiver Marty Booker, who emerged from relative obscurity to a 100-catch

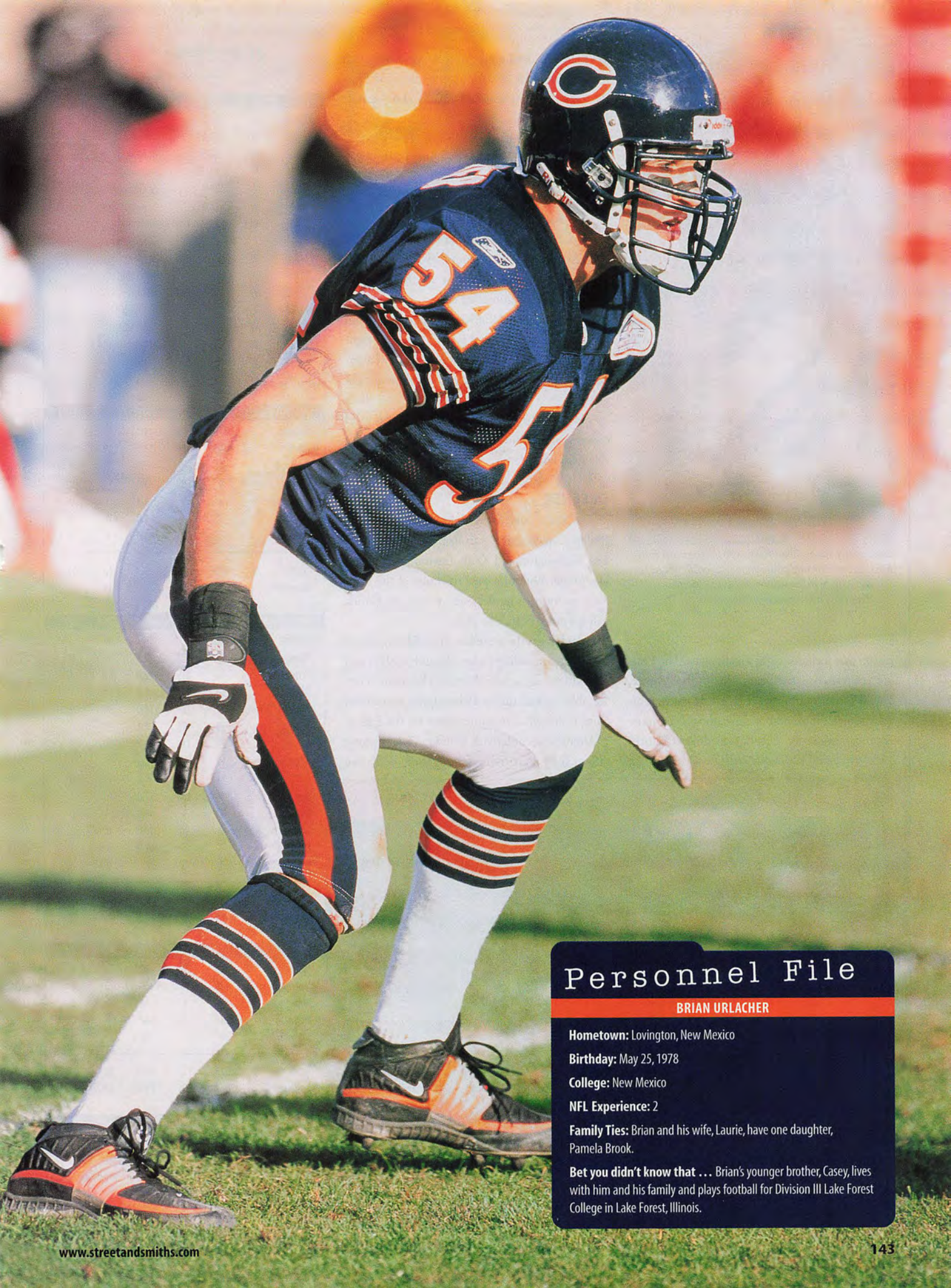


## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	293.4	26 <sup>T</sup>	TOTAL DEFENSE	311.1	15
RUSHING	108.9	17	AGAINST RUSH	82.1	2
PASSING	184.5	24	AGAINST PASS	229.1	29
SCORING	338	11	PTS. ALLOWED	203	1
PUNT RETURNS	9.0	20	INTERCEPTIONS	20	14
KICK RETURNS	20.4	23	SACKS	48	10
RED ZONE TD %	46.3	17	TURNOVER DIFF.	+13	4







## Personnel File

### BRIAN URLACHER

**Hometown:** Lovington, New Mexico

**Birthday:** May 25, 1978

**College:** New Mexico

**NFL Experience:** 2

**Family Ties:** Brian and his wife, Laurie, have one daughter, Pamela Brook.

**Bet you didn't know that . . .** Brian's younger brother, Casey, lives with him and his family and plays football for Division III Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, Illinois.





Chicago free safety Mike Brown, who led the Bears with five interceptions, had game-winning pickoff returns for touchdowns in back-to-back overtime games (San Francisco and Cleveland) last season.

season that included eight touchdowns. The Bears are counting on last year's No. 1 draft choice, David Terrell, to improve from his 34-catch, four-touchdown rookie year and give the offense more balance, especially if Robinson doesn't return. Dez White and Ahmad Merritt provide depth.

Offensive coordinator John Shoop would like to get more out of a tight end cadre of Fred Baxter, John Davis, Dustin Lyman and newcomer Luther Broughton.

The Bears drafted Boston College's Marc Colombo with their No. 1 pick to replace left tackle Blake Brockermeyer, who left amid contractual and injury difficulties. Brockermeyer was an important cog in an offensive line that led the league in fewest sacks allowed (17), with all five starters starting all 16 games. Backup Bernard Robertson will get first shot at the job, but Colombo's expectations are clear.

Pro Bowl center Olin Kreutz got a \$7 million bonus to stay and play with Pro Bowl right tackle James "Big Cat" Williams, Pro Bowl alternate left guard Rex Tucker and underrated right guard Chris Villarrial. There was no luck involved in the Bears' development of a solid offensive line. Third-rounder Terrence Metcalf of Ole Miss adds depth.

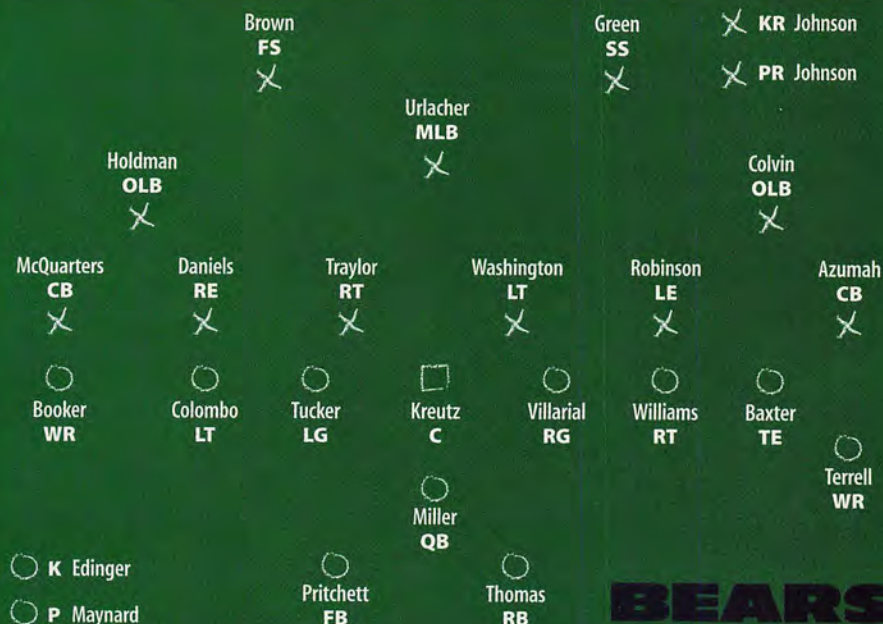
## DEFENSE

The Bears have a big defensive line in ends Phillip Daniels and Bryan Robinson and tackles Ted Washington and Keith Traylor. They would like to get more of a pass rush out of the front four, so fourth-rounder Alex Brown of Florida will get every chance to play.

Urlacher leads a stellar linebacking group that includes leading sacker Roosevelt Colvin and second-leading tackler Warrick Holdman. They are ably backed up by Philadelphia acquisition Mike Caldwell, a 16-game starter for the Eagles.

After losing cornerback Walt Harris and strong safety Tony Parrish in free agency, defensive

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 13, Lost 3

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	L 6-17	at Baltimore
09/23	W 17-10	Minnesota
10/07	W 31-3	at Atlanta
10/14	W 20-13	Arizona
10/21	W 24-0	at Cincinnati
10/28	W 37-31	San Francisco
11/04	W 27-21	Cleveland
11/11	L 12-20	Green Bay
11/18	W 27-24	at Tampa Bay
11/25	W 13-6	at Minnesota
12/02	W 13-10	Detroit
12/09	L 7-17	at Green Bay
12/16	W 27-3	Tampa Bay
12/23	W 20-15	at Washington
12/30	W 24-0	at Detroit
01/06	W 33-13	Jacksonville

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Thomas	278	1183	4.3	46	7
Allen	135	469	3.5	19	1
Johnson	20	99	5.0	34	4
Booker	4	8	2.0	13	0
Matthews	4	5	1.3	3	0
Denson	1	4	4.0	4	0
Milburn	3	3	1.0	4	0
Team	475	1742	3.7	46	12
Opponents	373	1313	3.5	29	6

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Booker	100	1071	10.7	66	8
White	45	428	9.5	32	0
Terrell	34	415	12.0	62	4
Allen	30	203	6.8	34	1
M. Robinson	23	269	11.0	34	2
Thomas	22	178	8.1	23	0
Baxter	22	148	6.7	19	2
Shelton	12	76	6.3	16	1
Davis	11	68	6.2	14	0
Bates	9	180	17.0	40	1
Milburn	3	9	3.0	7	0
Merrit	2	20	10.0	0	0
Urlacher	1	27	27.0	0	1
Johnson	1	0	0	0	0
Team	315	3072	9.8	66t	20
Opponents	355	3959	11.2	60t	12

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Miller	395	228	2299	13	10
Matthews	129	84	694	5	6
Booker	2	1	34	1	0
Maynard	1	1	27	1	0
Johnson	1	1	18	0	0
Team	528	315	3072	20	16
Opponents	602	355	3959	12	20

## SACKS

Colvin 10.5, Daniels 9.0, Urlacher 6.0, Robinson 4.5, Brown 3.0, Green 3.0, Azumah 2.0, Boone 2.0, Traylor 2.0, Holdman 1.5, Washington 1.5, McQuarters 1.0, Newkirk 1.0, Parrish 1.0

Bears 48.0, Opponents 17.0





Linebacker Roosevelt Colvin became the first Bear to top 10 sacks (10.5) in a season since Jim Flanigan's 11 in 1995.

coordinator Greg Blache expects to promote capable backups Jerry Azumah at corner and Mike Green at safety. If Green seems better suited to free safety, the exceptional Mike Brown has the ability to move to the strong side. Last season, R.W. McQuarters developed into the cornerback the 49ers thought they drafted No. 1 in 1998. Third-rounder Roosevelt Williams of Tuskegee and fifth-rounder Bobby Gray will join Pro Bowl special-teamer Larry Whigham as backups.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Punter Brad Maynard and placekicker Paul Edinger are solid, although the Bears signed strong-legged Jon Hilbert from Dallas to push Edinger. Backup tailback Johnson resurrected his career as a return specialist. ■

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	MINNESOTA	1:00
September 15	at Atlanta	1:00
September 22	NEW ORLEANS	1:00
September 29	at Buffalo	1:00
October 7	GREEN BAY	9:00
October 13	OPEN DATE	
October 20	at Detroit	1:00
October 27	at Minnesota	1:00
November 3	PHILADELPHIA	1:00
November 10	NEW ENGLAND	4:15
November 18	at St. Louis	9:00
November 24	DETROIT	1:00
December 1	at Green Bay	1:00
December 9	at Miami	9:00
December 15	NY JETS	1:00
December 22	at Carolina	1:00
December 29	TAMPA BAY	8:30

All times Eastern

## CHICAGO BEARS

Dick Jauron, head coach

Mike Sweatman, special teams; Vance Bedford, defensive backs; Greg Blache, defensive coordinator; Pete Carmichael, offensive assistant; Pat Flaherty, tight ends; Todd Haley, wide receivers; Dale Lindsey, linebackers; Earle Mosley, running backs; Rex Norris, defensive line; John Shoop, offensive coordinator; Bob Wylie, offensive line

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Burris, Henry	QB	6-1	199	06/04/1975	0 Temple
12	Chandler, Chris	QB	6-4	228	10/12/1965	14 Washington
15	Miller, Jim	QB	6-2	215	02/09/1971	5 Michigan State
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
76	Cook, Damion	T	6-5	316	04/16/1979	0 Bethune-Cookman
73	Dogins, Kevin	C	6-1	301	12/07/1972	4 Texas A&M-Kingsville
69	Gandy, Mike	G	6-4	300	01/03/1979	0 Notre Dame
57	Kreutz, Olin	C	6-2	285	06/09/1977	4 Washington
65	Mannelly, Patrick	T	6-5	270	04/18/1975	4 Duke
60	Robertson, Bernard	T	6-2	300	06/09/1979	0 Tulane
64	Tucker, Rex	G	6-5	315	12/20/1976	3 Texas A&M
58	Villarrial, Chris	G	6-4	314	06/09/1973	6 Indiana (PA)
71	Williams, James	T	6-7	338	03/29/1968	11 Cheyney
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
27	Abdullah, Rabi	RB	6-1	227	04/27/1975	3 Lehigh
25	Denson, Autry	RB	5-10	195	12/08/1976	3 Notre Dame
32	Johnson, Leon	RB	6-1	218	07/13/1974	5 North Carolina
36	Pritchett, Stanley	RB	6-1	240	12/22/1973	6 South Carolina
31	Shelton, Daimon	RB	6-0	258	09/15/1972	5 Sacramento State
35	Thomas, Anthony	RB	6-1	230	11/11/1977	1 Michigan
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
84	Baxter, Fred	TE	6-3	265	06/14/1971	9 Auburn
86	Booker, Marty	WR	5-11	208	07/31/1976	3 Northeast Louisiana
80	Broughton, Luther	TE	6-2	248	11/30/1974	4 Furman
82	Davis, John	TE	6-4	265	05/14/1973	5 Emporia State
89	Lyman, Dustin	TE	6-4	250	08/05/1976	2 Wake Forest
81	Merritt, Ahmad	WR	6-0	180	02/05/1977	1 Wisconsin
88	Robinson, Marcus	WR	6-3	215	02/27/1975	4 South Carolina
83	Terrell, David	WR	6-3	212	03/13/1979	1 Michigan
80	White, Dez	WR	6-0	214	08/23/1979	2 Georgia Tech
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
70	Boone, Alfonso	DT	6-3	320	01/11/1976	1 Mount San Antonio JC
93	Daniels, Phillip	DE	6-5	290	03/04/1973	6 Georgia
62	Newkirk, Robert	DT	6-3	295	03/06/1977	3 Michigan State
95	Riley, Karon	DE	6-2	262	08/23/1978	1 Minnesota
98	Robinson, Bryan	DE	6-4	295	06/22/1974	5 Fresno State
99	Tafoya, Joe	DT	6-4	270	09/06/1977	1 Arizona
94	Traylor, Keith	DT	6-2	320	09/03/1969	10 Central Oklahoma
92	Washington, Ted	DT	6-5	355	04/13/1968	11 Louisville
91	Wiltz, Jason	DT	6-4	300	11/23/1976	2 Nebraska
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
39	Austin, Reggie	CB	5-9	175	01/21/1977	1 Wake Forest
23	Azumah, Jerry	CB	5-10	190	09/01/1977	3 New Hampshire
30	Brown, Mike	S	5-10	202	02/13/1978	2 Nebraska
43	Green, Michael	S	6-0	188	12/06/1976	2 Northwestern State
26	McMillon, Todd	CB	5-10	183	09/26/1973	2 Northern Arizona
21	McQuarters, R.W.	CB	5-9	196	12/21/1976	4 Oklahoma State
22	Merrill, Than	S	6-3	220	12/12/1977	1 Yale
33	Whigham, Larry	S	6-2	212	06/23/1972	8 Northeast Louisiana
38	Young, Floyd	CB	5-9	173	11/23/1975	4 Texas A&M-Kingsville
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
56	Caldwell, Mike	LB	6-2	237	08/31/1971	9 Middle Tennessee State
59	Colvin, Roosevelt	LB	6-3	240	09/05/1977	3 Purdue
53	Holdman, Warrick	LB	6-1	235	11/22/1975	3 Texas A&M
52	Howard, Bobbie	LB	5-10	226	06/14/1977	1 Notre Dame
54	Urlacher, Brian	LB	6-3	248	05/25/1978	2 New Mexico
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
2	Edinger, Paul	K	5-10	162	01/17/1978	2 Michigan State
3	Hilbert, Jon	K	6-2	222	07/15/1975	1 Louisville
4	Maynard, Brad	P	6-1	185	02/09/1974	5 Ball State

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	29	Colombo, Marc	T	6-7	313	10/08/1978	Boston College
3	7	Williams, Roosevelt	CB	5-11	202	09/10/1978	Tuskegee
3	28	Metcalfe, Terrence	G	6-3	318	01/28/1978	Mississippi
4	6	Brown, Alex	DE	6-3	260	06/04/1979	Florida
5	5	Gray, Bobby	S	6-0	209	04/30/1978	Louisiana Tech
5	30	Knight, Bryan	DE	6-1	225	11/22/1979	Pittsburgh
6	27	Peterson, Adrian	RB	5-10	214	07/01/1979	Georgia Southern
6	31	Elliott, Jamin	WR	5-11	188	10/05/1979	Delaware
6	38	Fletcher, Bryan	TE	6-5	237	04/23/1979	UCLA



# Minnesota Vikings

## Tice making nice with Moss in hopes of reviving Viking fortunes.

**M**ike Tice has stepped into a tough spot with the Vikings. He's following NFL dean of coaches Dennis Green, who left him with talented but temperamental receiver Randy Moss. Tice wasn't pushed into this job. He likes challenges. One of his first moves was to hire his old high school coach, George O'Leary, the humiliated five-day coach at Notre Dame.

On draft day, the Vikings wrote down the name of North Carolina defensive tackle Ryan Sims as their first choice, only to get beat to the podium by the Chiefs, who traded up with the Cowboys at the last second. The Vikings then picked 6-8, 343-pound offensive tackle Bryant McKinnie. To be sure, they need McKinnie. What they don't need is to have to explain to him that he was their second choice. Maybe Tice will let O'Leary do that.

The Vikings are in transition. This means they might not make the playoffs for two years in a row for the first time since 1990-91. Those were the pre-Green days. Green never managed to win many popularity contests, but he did win a lot of games. Tice is a more personable sort, but he will soon discover winning trumps all.

The prospect of winning right away doesn't appear great. The Vikings slid to 5-11 last year and their defense finished 27th in the league. Their once-high-powered offense slipped from fifth to 12th, not good enough to carry Green to his ninth playoff season in 10 years. Time to go fishing.

### OFFENSE

Besides Moss, Tice inherits young quarterback Daunte Culpepper, so the cupboard isn't exactly bare. After Culpepper got hurt and missed the final five games, the Vikings found out how the other half lives. Culpepper needs more discipline, starting with offseason commitment, but he is a

rare talent around which Tice's tenure will revolve.

Both Moss and Culpepper will be living with-out receiver Cris Carter for the first time. This could be good and bad. The productive Carter's influence over his young teammates was valuable, but could also be stifling. Watching Carter chew out Culpepper on the sidelines wore Green out.

How Moss and Culpepper are able to assume the mantle of leadership is key to Viking success. Will they display maturity and wisdom in their new roles, or will they inspire sideline and locker room chaos?

If Moss requires babysitting, Tice won't last long. Tice claims Moss will adhere to the same rules as everybody else. Tice said he did a study and found that in four of the five games that the Vikings threw to Moss 40 percent of the time, they won. In the only loss, they were close. Tice has promised to make Moss the focal point of the offense and detour his frustration.

Without Carter around, Moss will have to step up to maintain his reputation as the NFL's most dangerous receiver. At the same time, he will have to live down his reputation for taking off plays. Backups Chris Walsh and Chicago pickup D'Wayne Bates are not going to make anyone forget Carter, so the Vikings will stay in the receiver market all summer. Re-signing big target Byron Chamberlain, who caught 57 passes, was a must at tight end, where he will be joined by Johnny McWilliams.

Tice expects running back Michael Bennett to break out after a decent but unspectacular rookie season of 682 yards. His longest run was 31 yards. With his speed, the Vikings need more. With blocking back/tight end Jim Kleinsasser leading the way, Bennett should develop.

McKinnie will anchor the left side of a line that hasn't yet recovered from the shocking death



Daunte Culpepper (top) tied a Viking record with a .642 completion percentage last season, matching Fran Tarkenton's 1975 mark. At bottom, center Matt Birk was named to his second straight Pro Bowl last season.

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	324.1	12	TOTAL DEFENSE	354.1	27
RUSHING	100.6	25	AGAINST RUSH	143.7	30
PASSING	223.5	7	AGAINST PASS	210.4	18
SCORING	290	24	PTS. ALLOWED	390	26
PUNT RETURNS	6.8	30	INTERCEPTIONS	8	31
KICK RETURNS	21.4	16	SACKS	30	24
RED ZONE TD %	43.6	22	TURNOVER DIFF.	-21	31





# Personnel File

RANDY MOSS

**Hometown:** San Diego

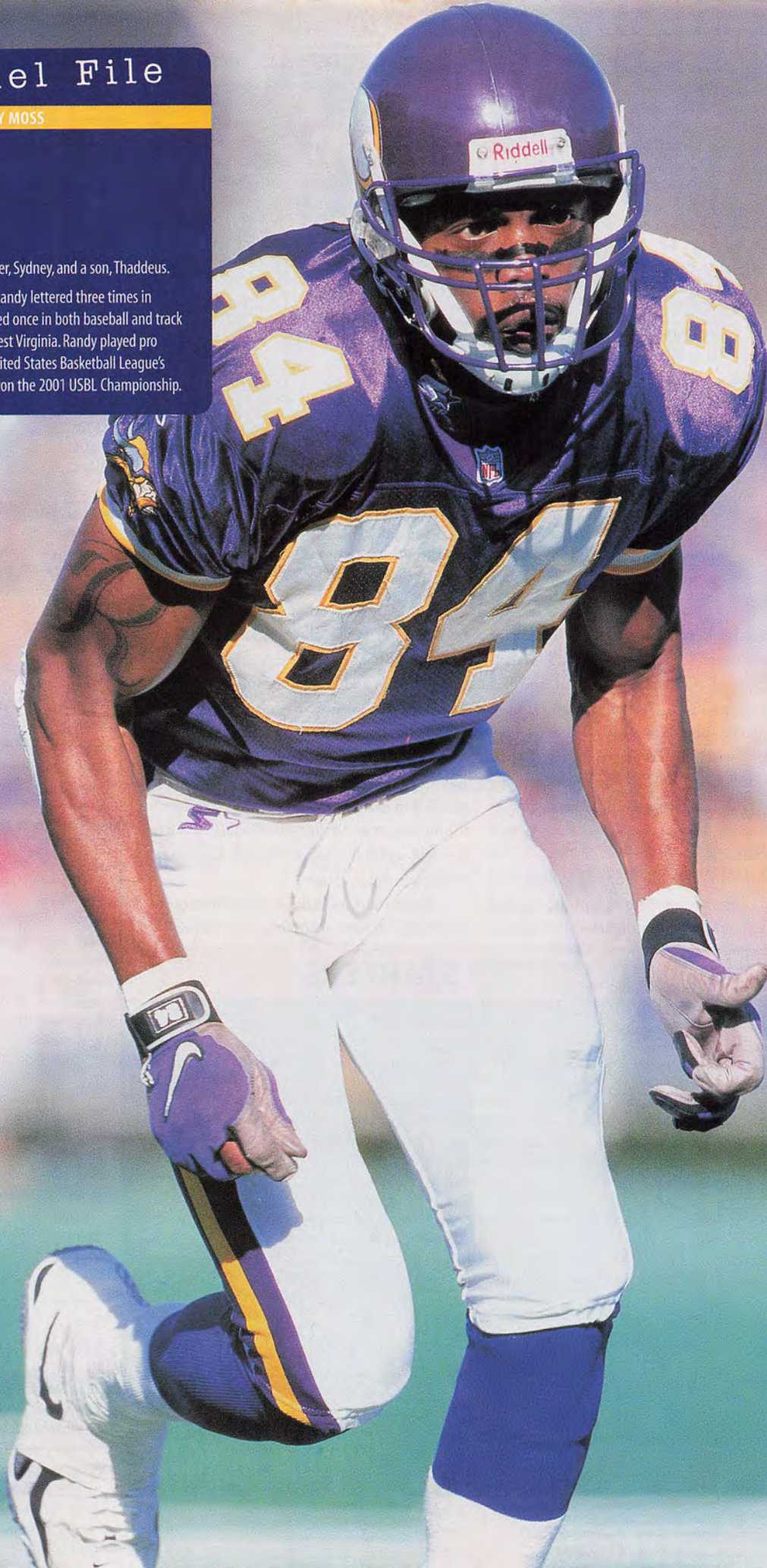
**Birthday:** February 13, 1977

**College:** Marshall

**NFL Experience:** 4

**Family Ties:** Randy has a daughter, Sydney, and a son, Thaddeus.

**Bet you didn't know that . . .** Randy lettered three times in basketball and football and lettered once in both baseball and track at DuPont High School in Rand, West Virginia. Randy played pro basketball last summer for the United States Basketball League's Pennsylvania ValleyDawgs, who won the 2001 USBL Championship.







Defensive tackle Chris Hovan (99) produced six sacks and 21 quarterback hurries in his second pro season. New Viking coach Mike Tice (above), the first Minnesota coach who also was a player for the team, made the most news over the winter by hiring disgraced former Notre Dame coach George O'Leary as an assistant.

of right tackle Korey Stringer on the first day of last year's training camp. Chris Liwienski started every game at right tackle last year and did a credible job. Guards David Dixon and Corbin Lacina and Pro Bowl center Matt Birk anchor the middle. Lewis Kelly, Everett Lindsay, Calvin Collins and Cory Withrow will compete for backup spots. Left tackle Brad Badger is gone.

## DEFENSE

New defensive coordinator Willie Shaw will rebuild a unit that was 30th against the run and could have used Sims on the nose. Instead, the

front four will revolve around tackles Chris Hovan and Fred Robbins and former Dolphin ends Kenny Mixon and Lorenzo Bromell, with Lance Johnstone and Talance Sawyer also competing.

None of the Vikings' top six tacklers return as starters, and most are gone, including linebackers Kailee Wong and Ed McDaniel. So Shaw has penciled in Atlanta newcomer Henri Crockett in the middle, second-round pick Raonall Smith on the right and converted end Patrick Chukwurah on the left, but stay tuned.

A similar overhaul of the secondary is planned, with Corey Chavous arriving from Arizona to

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 5, Lost 11

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	L 13-24	Carolina
09/23	L 10-17	at Chicago
09/30	W 20-16	Tampa Bay
10/07	L 15-28	at New Orleans
10/14	W 31-26	Detroit
10/21	W 35-13	Green Bay
10/28	L 14-41	at Tampa Bay
11/11	L 17-48	at Philadelphia
11/19	W 28-16	N.Y. Giants
11/25	L 6-13	Chicago
12/02	L 16-21	at Pittsburgh
12/09	W 42-24	Tennessee
12/16	L 24-27	at Detroit
12/23	L 3-33	Jacksonville
12/30	L 13-24	at Green Bay
01/07	L 3-19	at Baltimore

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Bennett	172	682	4.0	31	2
Culpepper	71	416	5.9	34	5
Chapman	63	195	3.1	19	0
Kleinsasser	23	72	3.1	11	1
Morrow	12	67	5.6	15	0
Wynn	8	61	7.6	14	0
Bouman	9	61	6.8	21	0
Moss	3	38	12.7	18	0
Prentice	14	13	0.9	6	2
Carter	1	4	4.0	4	0

Team	376	1609	4.3	34	10
Opponents	477	2299	4.8	61	21

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Moss	82	1233	15.0	73	10
C. Carter	73	871	11.9	52	6
Chamberlain	57	666	11.7	47	3
Bennett	29	226	7.8	80	1
Reed	27	309	11.4	27	1
Kleinsasser	24	184	7.7	18	0
Chapman	16	135	8.4	38	1
Morrow	13	142	10.9	28	0
Walsh	9	67	7.4	19	0
Jordan	3	11	3.7	4	1
Prentice	1	10	10.0	10	0
Culpepper	1	0	0	0	0

Team	335	3854	11.5	80t	23
Opponents	291	3571	12.3	69	16

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Culpepper	366	235	2612	14	13
Bouman	89	51	795	8	4
Wynn	98	48	418	1	6
Moss	1	1	29	0	0

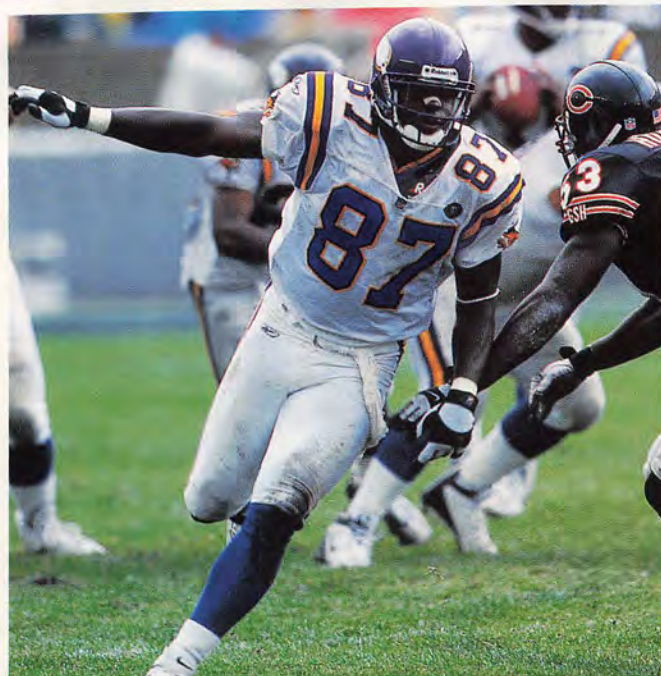
Team	555	335	3854	23	23
Opponents	478	291	3571	16	8

## SACKS

Hovan 6.0, Johnstone 5.5, Sawyer 5.0, Chukwurah 2.5, Garnett 2.0, Robbins 2.0, Colinet 1.0

Vikings 30.0, Opponent 47.0





Byron Chamberlain became the first Vikings tight end to earn a berth in the Pro Bowl since Steve Jordan's appearance in 1991.

join incumbent cornerback Eric Kelly. There's a new cast of safeties replacing departed Robert Griffith and Orlando Thomas. Griffith, who went to Cleveland, will be missed for his leadership. His possible replacement is third-round draft choice Willie Offord. Carey Scott, who spent last season on injured reserve, expects to nail down the free safety job ahead of Tyrone Carter, with fourth-rounder Brian Williams of N.C. State pushing. Kenny Wright, Robert Tate and Don Morgan provide depth.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

The Vikings lost outstanding punter Mitch Berger to St. Louis and signed Kyle Richardson from Baltimore to replace him. Berger's booming kickoffs will be missed the most. Minnesota signed Doug Brien to replace Pro Bowl placekicker Gary Anderson, who turns 43 this season. Tate and David Allen will handle the return duties.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Chicago	1:00
September 15	BUFFALO	4:15
September 22	CAROLINA	1:00
September 29	at Seattle	8:30
October 6	OPEN DATE	
October 13	DETROIT	1:00
October 20	at NY Jets	1:00
October 27	CHICAGO	1:00
November 3	at Tampa Bay	1:00
November 10	NY GIANTS	1:00
November 17	GREEN BAY	1:00
November 24	at New England	1:00
December 1	ATLANTA	1:00
December 8	at Green Bay	8:30
December 15	at New Orleans	1:00
December 21	MIAMI	1:30
December 29	at Detroit	1:00

All times Eastern

# MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Mike Tice, head coach

Charlie Baggett, wide receivers; George O'Leary, assistant head coach/defensive line; Dean Dalton, quality control; Willie Shaw, defensive coordinator; Chuck Knox, Jr., outside linebackers; John Tice, tight ends; Steve Wetzel, strength and conditioning; Alex Wood, quarterbacks; Jay Hayes, special teams; Scott Linehan, offensive coordinator; Steve Loney, offensive line; Pete Berich, defensive quality control

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
8	Bouman, Todd	QB	6-2	229	08/01/1972	1 St. Cloud State
11	Culpepper, Daunte	QB	6-4	260	01/28/1977	3 Central Florida
14	Miller, Romaro	QB	6-1	195	09/12/1978	0 Mississippi
3	Wynn, Spurgeon	QB	6-3	226	08/10/1978	2 Southwest Texas State
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
78	Birk, Matt	C	6-4	308	07/23/1976	4 Harvard
68	Collins, Calvin	G	6-2	310	01/05/1974	5 Texas A&M
73	Crawford, Brian	T	6-6	324	09/27/1977	0 Western Oregon
71	Dixon, David	G	6-5	359	01/05/1969	8 Arizona State
61	Kelly, Lewis	T	6-4	306	04/21/1977	1 South Carolina State
63	Lacina, Corbin	G	6-4	314	11/02/1970	8 Augustana (SD)
62	Lindsay, Everett	G	6-4	302	09/18/1970	7 Mississippi
76	Liwienski, Chris	T	6-5	321	08/02/1975	3 Indiana
69	Malano, Mike	C	6-2	304	10/16/1976	0 San Diego State
60	Withrow, Cory	C	6-2	281	04/05/1975	2 Washington State
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
23	Bennett, Michael	RB	5-9	211	08/13/1978	1 Wisconsin
34	Chapman, Doug	RB	5-10	213	08/22/1977	1 Marshall
40	Kleinsasser, Jim	RB	6-3	274	01/31/1977	3 North Dakota
33	Morrow, Harold	RB	5-11	232	02/24/1973	6 Auburn
30	Prentice, Travis	RB	5-11	221	12/08/1976	2 Miami (OH)
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
	Bates, D'Wayne	WR	6-2	208	12/04/1975	3 Northwestern
80	Carter, Cris	WR	6-3	208	11/25/1965	15 Ohio State
89	Cercone, Matt	TE	6-5	252	11/30/1975	1 Arizona State
87	Chamberlain, Byron	TE	6-1	242	10/17/1971	7 Wayne State (NE)
84	Dawkins, Sean	WR	6-4	213	02/03/1971	9 California
43	Goodwin, Hunter	TE	6-5	270	10/10/1972	6 Texas A&M
83	Heffner-Liddiard, Brody	TE	6-4	234	06/12/1977	2 Colorado
13	James, Cedric	WR	6-1	199	03/19/1979	0 Texas Christian
	McWilliams, Johnny	TE	6-4	271	12/14/1972	5 Southern California
84	Moss, Randy	WR	6-4	204	02/13/1977	4 Marshall
81	Walsh, Chris	WR	6-1	199	12/12/1968	10 Stanford
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
96	Boireau, Michael	DE	6-4	265	07/24/1978	0 Miami (FL)
91	Bromell, Lorenzo	DE	6-6	268	09/23/1975	4 Clemson
92	Garnett, Winfield	DT	6-6	320	07/24/1976	1 Ohio State
90	Hazuga, Jeff	DE	6-5	277	04/29/1978	1 Wisconsin-Stout
73	Holland, Darius	DT	6-5	330	11/10/1973	6 Colorado
99	Hovan, Chris	DT	6-2	294	05/12/1978	2 Boston College
91	Howard, Willie	DE	6-3	298	12/26/1977	1 Stanford
51	Johnstone, Lance	DE	6-4	253	06/11/1973	6 Temple
79	Mixon, Kenny	DE	6-4	275	05/31/1975	4 LSU
98	Robbins, Fred	NT	6-4	313	03/25/1977	2 Wake Forest
97	Sawyer, Talance	DE	6-2	270	06/14/1976	3 UNLV
67	Williams, Lamanzer	DE	6-4	272	11/17/1974	1 Minnesota
95	Worthen, Shawn	DT	6-1	316	09/14/1978	1 Texas Christian
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
22	Carter, Tyrone	S	5-8	190	03/31/1976	2 Minnesota
25	Chavous, Corey	CB	6-1	206	01/15/1976	4 Vanderbilt
25	Kelly, Eric	CB	5-10	197	01/15/1977	1 Kentucky
46	Kidd, Carl	CB	6-1	210	06/14/1973	2 Arkansas State
31	Morgan, Don	S	5-11	202	09/18/1975	3 Nevada
41	Scott, Carey	CB	5-11	207	08/11/1978	0 Kentucky State
28	Tate, Robert	CB	5-10	193	10/19/1973	5 Cincinnati
20	Wright, Kenny	CB	6-1	205	09/14/1977	3 Northwestern State
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
50	Chukwurah, Patrick	LB	6-1	239	03/01/1979	1 Wyoming
39	Crawford, Mike	LB	6-1	238	10/29/1974	1 Nevada
94	Crockett, Henri	LB	6-2	238	10/28/1974	5 Florida State
55	Hall, Lemanski	LB	6-0	234	11/24/1970	7 Alabama
56	Nelson, Jim	LB	6-1	234	04/16/1975	3 Penn State
96	O'Neal, Andre	LB	6-1	234	12/12/1975	2 Marshall
54	Wilson, Antonio	LB	6-2	247	12/29/1977	2 Texas A&M-Commerce
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Brien, Doug	K	6-0	180	11/24/1970	8 California
5	Richardson, Kyle	P	6-2	210	03/02/1973	5 Arkansas State

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	7	McKinnie, Bryant	T	6-8	343	09/23/1979	Miami (FL)
2	6	Smith, Raonall	LB	6-2	242	10/22/1978	Washington State
3	5	Offord, Willie	S	6-1	210	12/22/1978	South Carolina
4	7	Williams, Brian	CB	6-0	207	07/02/1979	North Carolina State
4	34	Ta'amu, Edward	G	6-2	335	11/08/1979	Utah
6	5	Rogers, Nick	LB	6-2	251	05/31/1979	Georgia Tech
7	7	Beasley, Chad	DT	6-5	303	11/13/1978	Virginia Tech



## Ford's better idea is a new downtown stadium, not the 2002 Lions, who need better handling.

**T**he Lions have some explaining to do. Maybe Bill Ford Jr. can add a line or two to those ubiquitous Ford commercials and clarify why the team's president, Matt Millen, and coach Marty Mornhinweg were a better idea. After a 9-7 season in 2000, the Lions plummeted to 2-14 under the new regime, collapsing

in the draft. Millen compared the situation to the Ford Motor Company itself, which manufactures different varieties of good cars. The Lions will thrive with more than one good quarterback, Millen promised.

To long-suffering Lions fans, it is hardly a comforting notion. They really don't ask for much. They were surprisingly faithful through all those frustrating seasons at the Pontiac Silverdome. Coming off a 2-14 season, they happily lined up to buy tickets for this year's debut of the new downtown Ford Field. They would be ecstatic with merely one decent quarterback, or even an occasional decent day by a quarterback. They don't need more promises.

### OFFENSE

After drafting Harrington following some intramural arguing, the Lions announced they would stick with McMahon, a curious notion considering the circumstances. McMahon started only three games last season, so it's not like Mornhinweg already has invested a whole lot of time grooming the kid. If the Lions are going to be in the hands of a young quarterback, why not Harrington?

At least Mornhinweg isn't insisting on resurrecting Detmer as an interim veteran to teach the kids his system. That idea backfired in a hailstorm of seven interceptions after Mornhinweg pulled the plug on Batch following the season opener. But it was Detmer who started the season finale, a win over Dallas that did little to salvage a lost year.

in a heap of injuries and quarterback confusion.

After bouncing Charlie Batch and then Ty Detmer, they appeared to settle on rookie fifth-rounder Mike McMahon as the quarterback of the future, only to make Joey Harrington their No. 1 pick

*A coveted offseason acquisition in 2001, running back James Stewart was slowed by injuries last year, missing five games and gaining only 685 yards.*



*The Lions re-signed top deep threat Germane Crowell, hoping he bounces back from the torn patella tendon that ended his season against the Titans last October.*

Mornhinweg has more problems than quarterback to address. The team's leading receiver and offensive MVP, Johnnie Morton, now plays for Kansas City. To replace him, the Lions paid the third receiver of the St. Louis Rams, Az-Zahir Hakim, a whopping \$5.25 million signing bonus to become the go-to guy in Detroit. An explosive talent, he will have to become more consistent and reliable to earn his keep. The Lions also hired Green Bay's No. 2 receiver, Bill Schroeder, who will at least fill in until injured Germane Crowell gets his legs underneath him. The Lions also lost tight end David Sloan, who led the team with seven touchdown catches, to New Orleans. They hope converted former wideout Mikhael Ricks can make do, and they also drafted Notre Dame's John Owens and Maryland's Matt Murphy at the position.

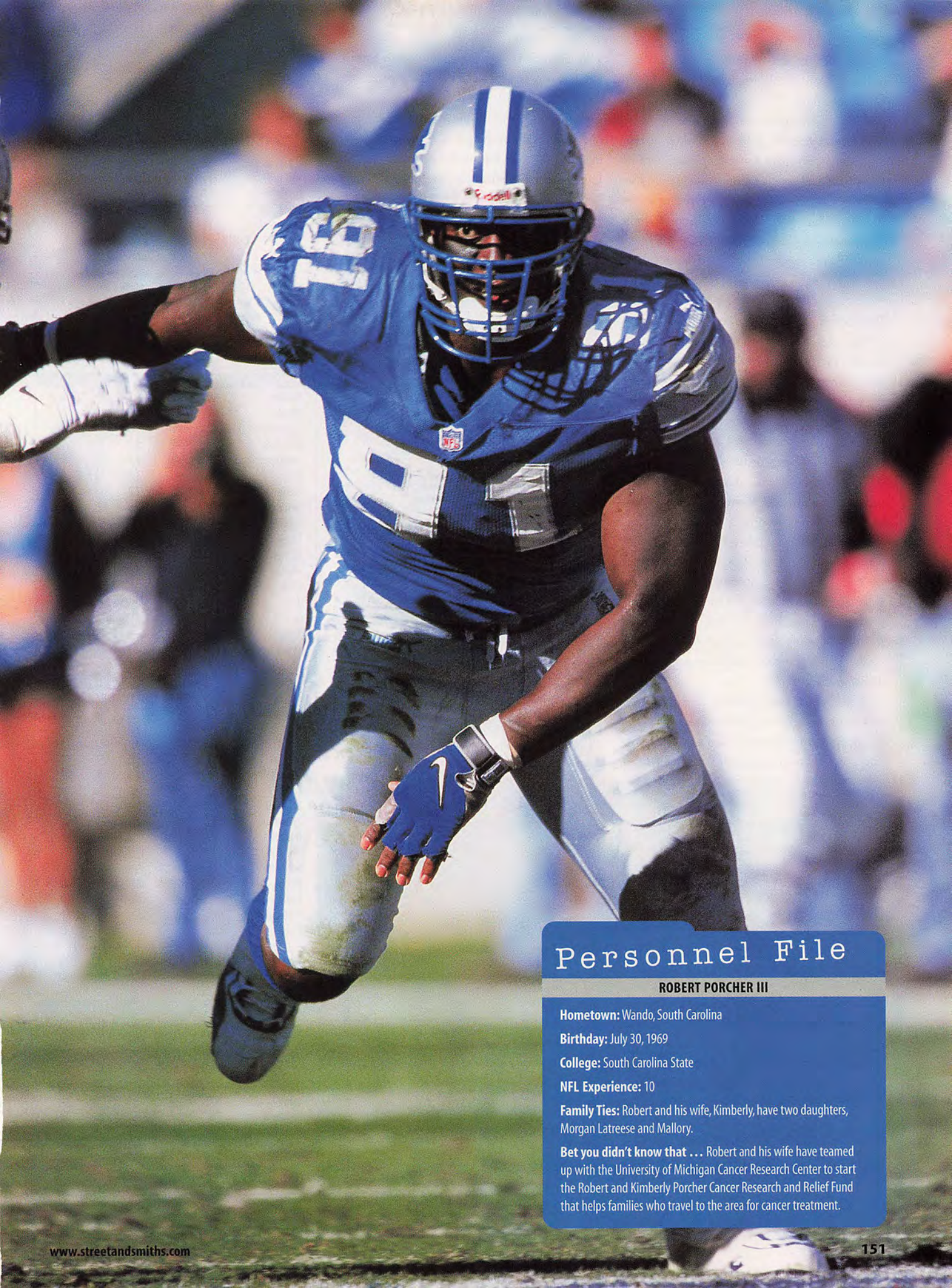
The Lions were the league's 28th-ranked rushing team, partly because they were behind so much they couldn't afford to run. James Stewart's 4.8-yard average was impressive, but he was exposed on the expansion list and there remains the question of whether Mornhinweg thinks he fits into the system. The Lions retained Lamont

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	312.1	16	TOTAL DEFENSE	345.1	26
RUSHING	87.4	28	AGAINST RUSH	124.6	23
PASSING	224.8	6	AGAINST PASS	220.5	25
SCORING	270	26	PTS. ALLOWED	424	30
PUNT RETURNS	8.8	21	INTERCEPTIONS	16	17
KICK RETURNS	23.5	5	SACKS	31	25
RED ZONE TD %	55.3	5T	TURNOVER DIFF.	-16	30







## Personnel File

### ROBERT PORCHER III

**Hometown:** Wando, South Carolina

**Birthday:** July 30, 1969

**College:** South Carolina State

**NFL Experience:** 10

**Family Ties:** Robert and his wife, Kimberly, have two daughters, Morgan Latreese and Mallory.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Robert and his wife have teamed up with the University of Michigan Cancer Research Center to start the Robert and Kimberly Porcher Cancer Research and Relief Fund that helps families who travel to the area for cancer treatment.



Warren, drafted BYU's Luke Staley and have fullback Cory Schlesinger, who caught 60 passes, returning.

The line is the most promising offensive unit, with second-year left tackle Jeff Backus anchoring his side with guard Tony Semple. Center Eric Beverly held off rookie Dominic Raiola last year, so the position is solid. The right guard is veteran Brenden Stai, with the Lions hoping huge Stockar McDougle (6-6, 350 pounds) will find a home at right tackle. If not, Matt Joyce is back and Kerlin Blaise is a promising backup.

## DEFENSE

The Lions entered last season decimated by injuries in the defensive secondary and never fully recovered. So coordinator Vince Tobin paid the price with his job and was replaced by Kurt Schottenheimer, who will try to repair the most scored-upon unit in the NFC.

Left end Robert Porcher is the star of this underachieving outfit, although second-year tackle Shaun Rogers, outstanding as a rookie, could emerge this season as a full-fledged force in the middle, where Luther Elliss also provides some occasional push. The right end is Jared DeVries until second-round draft choice Kalimba Edwards of South Carolina shows otherwise. The Lions hope Edwards can play down lineman full-time, but they have room at line-backer, too, if necessary. Fourth-round pick John Taylor will add depth.

At linebacker, leading tackler Chris Claiborne will move into the middle to replace departed Stephen Boyd and Barrett Green mans the weak-side spot. Claiborne's strongside slot remains open,

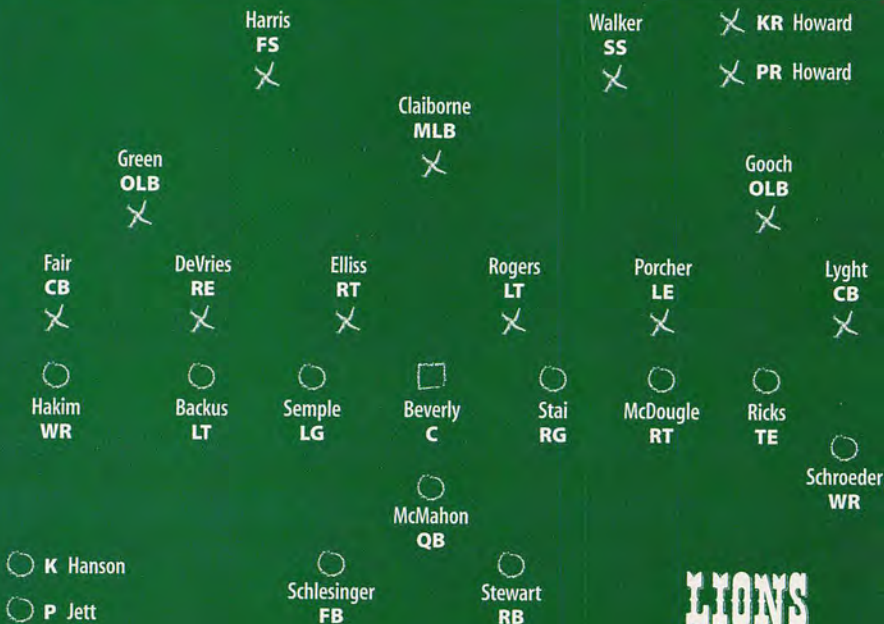
with journeymen Jeff Gooch and Khari Samuel listed as possibilities until the Lions peruse the training camp cuts.

Former No. 1 pick Bryant Westbrook, who had one brief season in the sun at cornerback before injuries overcame him, left for Dallas, and the Lions got rid of safeties Ron Rice and Kurt Schulz.



First-round pick Jeff Backus started all 16 games for the Lions at the offensive left tackle position in 2001.

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 2, Lost 14

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	L 6-28	at Green Bay
09/23	L 14-24	at Cleveland
10/08	L 0-35	St. Louis
10/14	L 26-31	at Minnesota
10/21	L 24-27	Tennessee
10/28	L 27-31	Cincinnati
11/04	L 13-21	at San Francisco
11/11	L 17-20	Tampa Bay
11/18	L 38-45	at Arizona
11/22	L 27-29	Green Bay
12/02	L 10-13	at Chicago
12/09	L 12-15	at Tampa Bay
12/16	W 27-24	Minnesota
12/23	L 14-47	at Pittsburgh
12/30	L 0-24	Chicago
01/06	W 15-10	Dallas

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Stewart	143	685	4.8	38	2
Warren	61	191	3.1	34	3
Schlesinger	47	154	3.3	26	3
McMahon	27	145	5.4	22	2
Droughns	30	72	2.4	15	0
Batch	12	45	3.8	12	0
Cason	11	31	2.8	19	0
Detmer	9	26	2.9	9	0
Howard	5	25	5.0	7	0
Foster	2	6	3.0	3	0
Crowell	1	6	6.0	6	0
Morton	1	6	6.0	6	0
Olivo	1	6	6.0	6	0
Jett	1	0	0	0	0

Team	351	1398	4.0	38	8
Opponents	470	1993	4.2	96t	15

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Morton	77	1154	15.0	76	4
Schlesinger	60	466	7.8	38	0
Warren	40	336	8.4	36	1
Sloan	37	409	11.1	27	7
Stewart	23	242	10.5	56	1
Crowell	22	289	13.1	46	2
Foster	22	283	12.9	36	0
Emanuel	17	221	13.0	29	0
Anderson	12	211	17.6	69	1
Howard	10	133	13.3	36	1
Trejo	5	61	12.2	20	0
Mitchell	5	29	5.8	12	0
Moore	4	76	19.0	25	0
Cason	4	32	8.0	9	0
Droughns	4	21	5.3	8	1
Waerig	1	6	6.0	6	0

Team	343	3969	11.6	76	18
Opponents	312	3452	12.0	68t	30

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Batch	341	198	2392	12	12
Detmer	151	92	906	3	10
McMahon	115	53	671	3	1
Warren	2	0	0	0	1

Team	609	343	3969	18	24
Opponents	514	312	3752	30	16

## SACKS

Porcher 11.0, Hall 4.0, Scroggins 2.0, Aldridge 1.0, Boyd 1.0, Campbell 1.0, Green 1.0, Rice 1.0, Spellman 1.0

Lions 31.0, Opponents 66.0





Second-round steal Shaun Rogers was one of the top rookie defenders of 2001, moving into a starting role on the Lions' defensive line and finishing third on the team in tackles.

The cornerbacks are Terry Fair and Todd Lyght until further notice. The Lions drafted Andre' Goodman and Chris Cash. Both have a history of injuries, so they should feel right at home. Journeyman Corey Harris was signed from Baltimore to play free safety and Brian Walker was added from Miami to start at strong safety. Lamar Campbell returns as a backup.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Placekicker Jason Hanson and punter John Jett get to continue their very good careers indoors in the new stadium. Desmond Howard returns as the return specialist.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Miami	1:00
September 15	at Carolina	1:00
September 22	GREEN BAY	4:15
September 29	NEW ORLEANS	1:00
October 6	OPEN DATE	
October 13	at Minnesota	1:00
October 20	CHICAGO	1:00
October 27	at Buffalo	1:00
November 3	DALLAS	1:00
November 10	at Green Bay	1:00
November 17	NY JETS	4:15
November 24	at Chicago	1:00
November 28	NEW ENGLAND	12:30
December 9	at Arizona	4:05
December 15	TAMPA BAY	1:00
December 22	at Atlanta	1:00
December 29	MINNESOTA	1:00

All times Eastern

## DETROIT LIONS

Marty Mornhinweg, head coach

Jason Arapoff, strength and conditioning; Maurice Carthon, offensive coordinator;  
Don Clemmons, defensive assistant/asst. strength and conditioning; Charles Haley, defensive line/pass rush;  
Kevin Higgins, quarterbacks; Carl Mauck, offensive line; Chuck Priefer, special teams;  
Richard Selcer, defensive nickel package; Kurt Schottenheimer, defensive coordinator;  
John Marshall, assistant defensive line; Ray Horton, secondary; Sherm Lewis, special assistant on offense

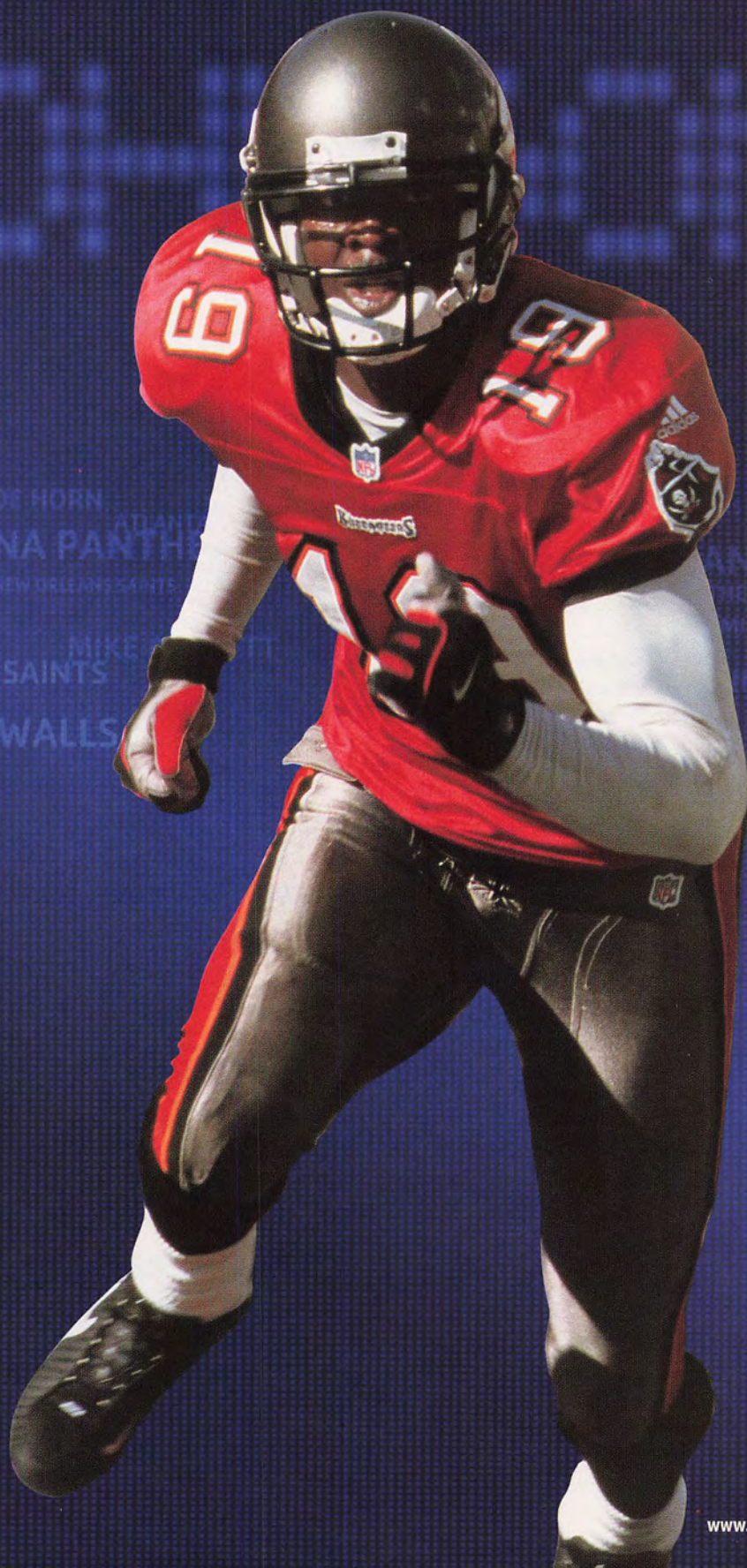
#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Batch, Charlie	QB	6-2	220	12/05/1974	4 Eastern Michigan
14	Detmer, Ty	QB	6-0	194	10/30/1967	7 Brigham Young
12	Dreisbach, Scott	QB	6-3	210	12/16/1975	0 Michigan
8	McMahon, Mike	QB	6-2	213	02/08/1979	1 Rutgers
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
76	Backus, Jeff	T	6-5	308	09/21/1977	1 Michigan
79	Beverly, Eric	C	6-3	294	03/28/1974	4 Miami (OH)
65	Blaise, Kerlin	G	6-5	323	12/25/1974	3 Miami (FL)
64	Hopson, Tyrone	T	6-2	305	05/28/1976	2 Eastern Kentucky
75	Joyce, Matt	G	6-7	305	03/30/1972	7 Richmond
70	Lovelady, Josh	G	6-3	320	01/28/1978	0 Houston
73	McDougle, Stockar	G	6-6	350	01/11/1977	2 Oklahoma
51	Raiola, Dominic	C	6-1	303	12/30/1978	1 Nebraska
62	Semple, Tony	G	6-5	303	12/20/1970	7 Memphis
66	Stai, Brenden	G	6-4	312	03/30/1972	7 Nebraska
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
33	Irvin, Sedrick	RB	5-11	226	03/30/1978	2 Michigan State
26	Olivo, Brock	RB	6-0	232	06/24/1976	4 Missouri
30	Schlesinger, Cory	RB	6-0	246	06/23/1972	7 Nebraska
34	Stewart, James	RB	6-1	226	12/27/1971	7 Tennessee
36	Trejo, Stephen	RB	6-2	258	11/20/1977	1 Arizona State
25	Warren, Lamont	RB	5-11	202	01/04/1973	7 Colorado
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
88	Anderson, Scott	WR	6-2	184	11/24/1979	1 Grambling
89	Banta, Bradford	TE	6-6	255	12/14/1970	8 Southern California
31	Cason, Avelon	WR	5-9	210	07/12/1977	1 Illinois State
82	Crowell, Germane	WR	6-3	216	09/13/1976	4 Virginia
81	Foster, Larry	WR	5-10	196	11/07/1976	2 LSU
81	Hakim, Az-Zahir	WR	5-10	182	06/03/1977	4 San Diego State
80	Howard, Desmond	WR	5-10	185	05/15/1970	10 Michigan
84	Moore, Herman	WR	6-4	218	10/20/1969	11 Virginia
85	Ricks, Mikhael	TE	6-5	242	11/14/1974	4 Stephen F. Austin
84	Schroeder, Bill	WR	6-3	205	01/09/1971	5 Wisconsin-La Crosse
46	Waerig, John	TE	6-2	254	04/08/1976	1 Maryland
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
95	DeVries, Jared	DE	6-4	280	06/11/1976	3 Iowa
94	Elliss, Luther	DT	6-5	305	03/22/1973	7 Utah
96	Hall, James	DE	6-2	271	02/04/1977	2 Michigan
77	Herron, Anthony	DE	6-3	280	09/24/1979	1 Iowa
67	Kirschke, Travis	DE	6-3	287	09/06/1974	4 UCLA
91	Porcher, Robert	DE	6-3	282	07/30/1969	10 South Carolina State
93	Pritchett, Kelvin	DT	6-3	319	10/24/1969	11 Mississippi
92	Rogers, Shaun	NT	6-4	331	03/12/1979	1 Texas
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
39	Campbell, Lamar	S	5-11	183	08/29/1976	4 Wisconsin
23	Fair, Terry	CB	5-9	184	07/20/1976	4 Tennessee
45	Harris, Corey	S	5-11	200	10/25/1969	10 Vanderbilt
40	Iwuoma, Chidi	CB	5-8	180	02/19/1978	1 California
24	Lyght, Todd	CB	6-0	190	02/09/1969	11 Notre Dame
27	Walker, Bracey	S	6-0	207	10/28/1970	8 North Carolina
45	Walker, Brian	S	6-1	206	05/31/1972	6 Washington State
27	Wyrick, Jimmy	CB	5-9	179	12/31/1976	2 Minnesota
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
50	Claiborne, Chris	LB	6-3	255	07/26/1978	3 Southern California
50	Gooch, Jeff	LB	5-11	225	10/31/1974	6 Austin Peay
54	Green, Barrett	LB	6-0	232	10/29/1977	2 West Virginia
58	Kriewaldt, Clint	LB	6-1	236	03/16/1976	3 Wisconsin-Stevens Point
56	McCaslin, Eugene	LB	6-1	226	07/12/1977	1 Florida
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Hanson, Jason	K	5-11	182	06/17/1970	10 Washington State
19	Jett, John	P	6-0	197	11/11/1968	9 East Carolina

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	3	Harrington, Joey	QB	6-4	220	10/21/1978	Oregon
2	3	Edwards, Kalimba	DE	6-5	265	12/26/1979	South Carolina
3	3	Goodman, Andre'	CB	5-10	182	08/08/1978	South Carolina
4	36	Taylor, John	DE	6-3	236	08/29/1979	Montana State
5	3	Owens, John	TE	6-3	265	01/10/1980	Notre Dame
6	3	Cash, Christopher	CB	5-10	177	07/13/1980	USC
7	3	Staley, Luke	RB	6-1	227	09/16/1980	Brigham Young
7	41	Murphy, Matt	TE	6-5	253	02/23/1980	Maryland
7	48	Rogers, Victor	G	6-6	331	10/10/1978	Colorado



# NFC SOUTH





# Bucs a solid favorite in (gasp!) division that makes perfect geographic sense.

**A**s a concession to geography teachers, some NFL divisions can actually be justified on a map. All NFC South teams are below the Mason-Dixon line, although a more specific designation would be the "NFC Southeast."

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers have been transplanted from the NFC Central, now the North, where they never felt at home. They join the New Orleans Saints, Atlanta Falcons and Carolina Panthers from the NFC West, which was an affront to the compasses of America.

Together, they form the NFC's only division with three losing teams from last season. The danger in the NFL's new realignment is that teams with losing or .500 records are more likely to win divisions and make the playoffs. The NFC South would be Exhibit A if anyone expected the past to foreshadow the future.

In today's NFL, yesterday's records are more likely to predict an opposite result tomorrow, in which case the Saints, Falcons and Panthers should flourish. With the Bucs replacing the Rams and 49ers in the division, there is already reason for them to rejoice.

## Tampa Bay Buccaneers

New coach Jon Gruden is almost embarrassed by the steep price the Bucs paid to get him from Oakland, so he will not sleep much while trying to justify it. He doesn't sleep much anyway, and his primary task is to wake up a moribund offense. The possession of No. 1 and No. 2 draft choices might have helped just as much, but Gruden will see what he can do with free-agent newcomers Joe Jurevicius, Michael Pittman, Ken Dilger and Rob Johnson—all on offense.

If he can keep Keyshawn Johnson happy, Gruden will have earned his keep. If he can keep Warren Sapp happy, the Bucs are liable to give the Raiders still another draft choice in gratitude.

## New Orleans Saints

This team went south before realignment, deserting coach Jim Haslett down the stretch in a shameful finish. They continued their intramural bickering into the offseason while Haslett and General Manager Randy Mueller were doing the only thing that made sense—virtually dismantling a team that won the NFC West in 2000.

To re-create the proper chemistry, the Saints chose a strange concoction of ingredients, including Bryan Cox and Dale Carter, who will join the likes of Joe Horn and Kyle Turley in a locker room that will need an influx of fire extinguishers.

All in all, however, the Saints appear too talented to stay in disarray. A few go-routes from Aaron Brooks to the fastest receiver in the draft, Donte' Stallworth, can heal many wounds.

## Atlanta Falcons

It confused observers when coach Dan Reeves selected big power back T.J. Duckett in the draft. Nobody thought quarterback Michael Vick was going to do much handing off to anybody but himself. He might have preferred greeting more receivers in the huddle. But if it worked for departed quarterback Chris Chandler, maybe it will work for Vick.

New defensive coordinator Wade Phillips returns to the league with a formidable challenge. The Falcons' defense was better than only one other, the Panthers.

## Carolina Panthers

New coach John Fox was defensive coordinator with the Giants, where Michael Strahan set a sack record. By drafting Julius Peppers, Fox hopes to follow the blueprint and revamp the sorriest defense in the league. It wouldn't be such a daunting task if Fox had inherited anything better than the 30th-ranked offense. He didn't. The Panthers earned their 1-15 record.



Previews by Don Pierson

## TOP PLAYERS

### OFFENSE:

**Aaron Brooks, QB**  
New Orleans Saints

### DEFENSE:

**Keith Brooking, LB**  
Atlanta Falcons

### NEWCOMER:

**Julius Peppers, DE**  
Carolina Panthers





# Tampa Bay Buccaneers

NFC SOUTH



## The clock is ticking for Jon Gruden to make all the draft picks the Bucs gave up for him worth it.

**I**t was in the middle of the night, shortly before coach Jon Gruden's alarm rang, that the Buccaneers called to surprise the notoriously early riser. Gruden loved the idea of moving to Tampa, where his family has roots.

The job description is simple: "win Super Bowl." The task is daunting. He must replace well-liked Tony Dungy, who was run out of town by the suddenly impatient Glazer family after three straight playoff seasons fell short of the ultimate goal.

The Glazers' confidence in Gruden is so high they trust he can get to the Super Bowl without draft choices. They gave the Raiders their No. 1 and No. 2 picks this year, their No. 1 next year, and No. 2 in 2004 for the right to steal Gruden away. Still the youngest head coach in the league, Gruden is likely to age fast under those conditions.

### OFFENSE

If his lack of sleep can cure a lack of touchdowns, Gruden's mission could satisfy Tampa fans grown weary of Dungy's offensive ways. Though Dungy changed coordinators and quarterbacks with alarming frequency, the style and the results always remained about the same—minimal.

The Glazers convinced General Manager Rich McKay to stick around and he kept busy acquiring free-agent receiver Joe Jurevicius, tight end Ken Dilger and another quarterback in Buffalo's underachieving Rob Johnson.

Early practices indicated the new Johnson is no threat to unseat incumbent Brad Johnson, but things change fast in Tampa. Gruden has spoken highly of Shaun King, the quarterback who got the Bucs into the NFC title game as a rookie in 1999, only to get shut out of the end zone.

Gruden has more than a quarterback quandary to fix. Wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson caught an NFC-high 106 passes last season, but only one wound up in the end zone. This seems almost impossible. Though happy with his numbers between the goal lines, Johnson expressed obvious frustration with the play-calling, as well as voicing complaints about the intensity of certain unnamed teammates. Gruden is accustomed to dealing with outspoken receivers after four years in Oakland with Tim Brown.

Finding a suitable complement for Johnson is problem No. 1. Dungy couldn't do it despite using a No. 1 pick on Reidel Anthony and a No. 2 pick on Jacquez Green, two underachieving receivers who hope to rekindle happiness with Steve Spurrier in Washington. Dungy's first pick when he finally had the chance (in the third round) was Michigan's big Marquise Walker, whose college statistics belied his supposed lack of speed. If he can play in the slot, it will free Johnson to become more of a deep threat.

Kick return man Karl Williams showed promise at receiver last season, but the Bucs hope former Giants third receiver Jurevicius fits the bill. A big target at 6-foot-5, Jurevicius caught 51 passes in New York, considerably more than the Bucs' No. 2 receiver last year. The Bucs also picked up journeyman Keith Poole. They lost tight end Dave Moore but more than replaced him with the Colts' Dilger and the Redskins' Marco Battaglia.

Despite flattery and promises of success in a new system, Gruden was unable to convince running back Warrick Dunn to stay, but the addition of Michael Pittman from Arizona should provide the kind of fast, pass-receiving back Gruden likes. The Bucs extended the contract of power back Mike Alstott because Gruden has shown a preference

*Eighth-year linebacker Derrick Brooks (top), whose 1,107 career tackles rank first in Buccaneer history, has been chosen for the last five Pro Bowls, while defensive tackle Warren Sapp's 64.5 sacks rank him second in franchise history.*

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	293.4	26T	TOTAL DEFENSE	290.8	6
RUSHING	85.7	30	AGAINST RUSH	106.4	12
PASSING	207.7	15	AGAINST PASS	184.4	5
SCORING	324	15	PTS. ALLOWED	280	8
PUNT RETURNS	10.4	13	INTERCEPTIONS	28	2
KICK RETURNS	22.4	11	SACKS	42	8
RED ZONE TD %	45.3	19T	TURNOVER DIFF.	+17	2





# Personnel File

MIKE ALSTOTT

**Hometown:** Joliet, Illinois

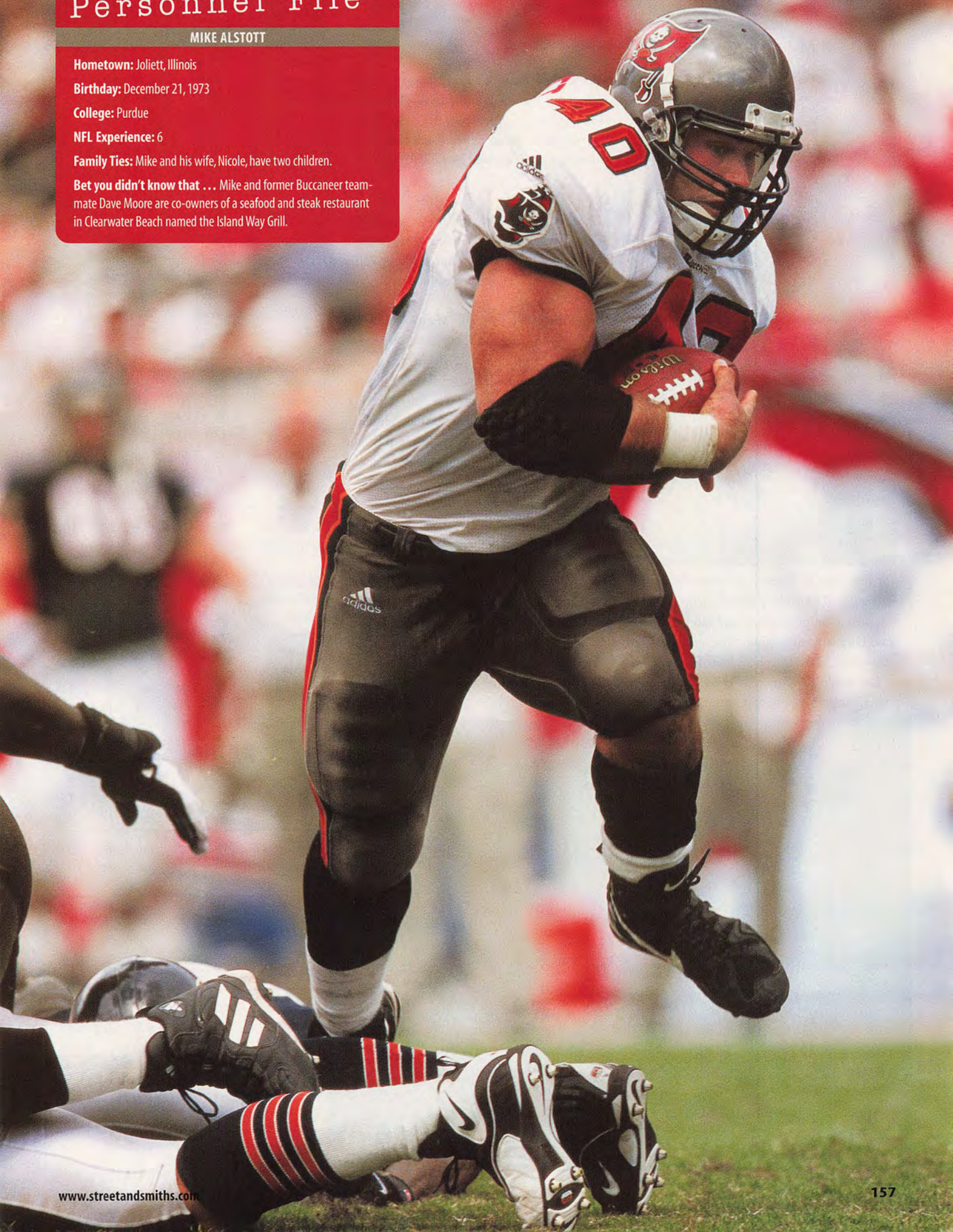
**Birthday:** December 21, 1973

**College:** Purdue

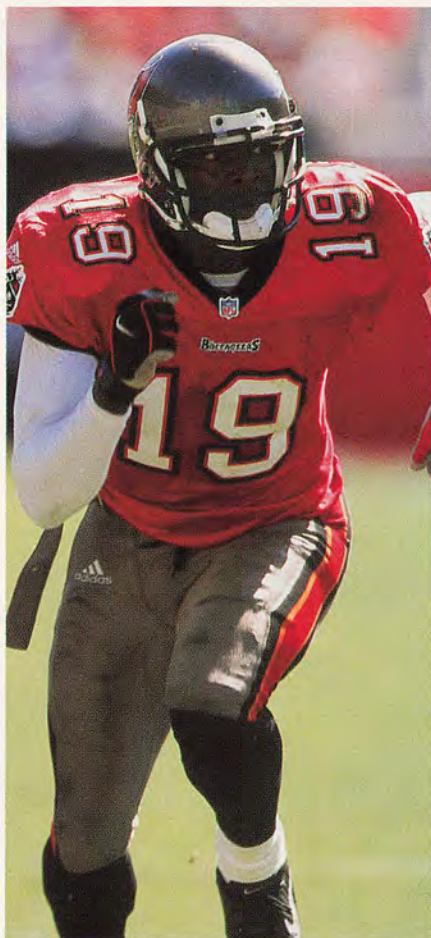
**NFL Experience:** 6

**Family Ties:** Mike and his wife, Nicole, have two children.

**Bet you didn't know that . . .** Mike and former Buccaneer teammate Dave Moore are co-owners of a seafood and steak restaurant in Clearwater Beach named the Island Way Grill.







Leading the NFC with 106 receptions, wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson played like he had something to prove last season.

Christy, right guard Cosey Coleman and right tackle Jerry Wunsch return, and holdover Todd Washington will battle newcomer Kerry Jenkins from the Jets to replace retired Randall McDaniel, whose reputation outlived his production.

## DEFENSE

As much as Gruden's offense is anticipated, defense will again make or break the Bucs, as it did for Dungy. Defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin remains and so does the nucleus of another typically solid unit.

The front four of ends Marcus Jones and Simeon Rice and tackles Warren Sapp and Anthony McFarland is as talented as it gets. Rice's 11 sacks plus his solid play against the run justified his acquisition last year. Losing backup Steve White hopefully is offset by the addition of Greg Spires, but James Cannida followed Dungy to Indianapolis. Sixth-round pick John Stamper will get a shot to stick.

The Bucs let middle linebacker Jamie Duncan go to St. Louis and will move outside backer Shelton Quarles to the middle, where he and Nate Webster will replace Duncan. Al Singleton will start in Quarles' place. Derrick Brooks is still as good as they come at outside linebacker and leads the Bucs in tackles every year. Jack Golden was added for depth.

Brian Kelly beat out departed Donnie Abraham at one corner and Ronde Barber made the Pro Bowl at the other. John Lynch is a fixture

for that style by revitalizing Tyrone Wheatley's career in Oakland. Fullback Jameel Cook emerged as an outstanding lead blocker. Just in case Bucs fans miss Dunn, Gruden drafted the even-smaller Travis Stephens from Tennessee.

Left tackle Kenyatta Walker should be more comfortable in his second season. Center Jeff

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 9, Lost 7

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 10-6	at Dallas
09/30	L 16-20	at Minnesota
10/07	W 14-10	Green Bay
10/14	L 28-31	at Tennessee
10/21	L 10-17	Pittsburgh
10/28	W 41-14	Minnesota
11/04	L 20-21	at Green Bay
11/11	W 20-17	at Detroit
11/18	L 24-27	Chicago
11/26	W 24-17	at St. Louis
12/02	W 16-13	at Cincinnati
12/09	W 15-12	Detroit
12/16	L 3-27	at Chicago
12/23	W 48-21	New Orleans
12/29	W 22-10	Baltimore
01/06	L 13-17	Philadelphia

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Alstott	165	680	4.1	39	10
Dunn	158	447	2.8	21	3
B. Johnson	39	120	3.1	21	3
Stecker	24	72	3.0	17	1
Abdullah	11	40	3.6	12	0
Anthony	3	22	7.3	16	0
Cook	2	2	1.0	0	0

Team	407	1371	3.4	39t	17
Opponents	415	1702	4.1	63t	8

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
K. Johnson	106	1266	11.9	47	1
Dunn	68	557	8.2	31	3
Green	36	402	11.2	35	1
Moore	35	285	8.1	29	4
Alstott	35	231	6.6	19	1
Williams	24	314	13.1	42	1
Cook	17	89	5.2	16	0
Anthony	13	162	12.5	35	0
Stecker	10	101	10.1	35	1
Murphy	8	71	8.9	20	1
Wynn	4	69	17.3	36	0
Yoder	4	48	12.0	24	0
Abdullah	2	26	13.0	14	0

Team	362	3621	10.0	47	13
Opponents	273	3223	11.8	67t	20

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Johnson	559	340	3406	13	11
King	31	21	210	0	1
Royals	1	1	5	0	0
Gramatica	1	0	0	0	0

Team	592	362	3621	13	12
Opponents	493	273	3223	20	28

## SACKS

Rice 11.0, Sapp 6.0, White 5.0, McFarland 3.5, Jones 3.0, Jackson 2.5, Darby 2.0, Duncan 2.0, Quarles 2.0, Kelly 1.5, Barber 1.0, Lynch 1.0, Singleton 1.0

Buccaneers 42.0, Opponents 47.0



# TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

Jon Gruden, head coach

Monte Kiffin, defensive coordinator; Richard Bisaccia, special teams;

Rod Marinelli, assistant head coach/defensive line; Kirby Wilson, running backs; Richard Mann, wide receivers;

Bill Muir, offensive coordinator/offensive line; Joe Barry, linebackers; Mike Tomlin, defensive backs;

Johnny Parker, strength and conditioning; Mike Morris, asst. strength and conditioning;

Jeremy Bates, offensive quality control; Stan Parrish, quarterbacks; Michael Christianson, asst. offensive line/offensive quality control; Raheem Morris, defensive quality control; Art Velero, tight ends

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
1	Hamilton, Joe	QB	5-10	190	03/13/1977	1 Georgia Tech
14	Johnson, Brad	QB	6-5	224	09/13/1968	8 Florida State
11	Johnson, Rob	QB	6-4	212	03/18/1973	7 Southern California
10	King, Shaun	QB	6-0	225	05/29/1977	3 Tulane

#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
62	Christy, Jeff	C	6-2	285	02/03/1969	9 Pittsburgh
60	Coleman, Cosey	G	6-4	322	10/27/1978	2 Tennessee
76	Curry, DeMarcus	T	6-5	332	04/30/1975	1 Auburn
68	Grice, Shane	G	6-1	300	12/20/1976	1 Mississippi
65	Hochstein, Russ	G	6-3	288	10/07/1977	0 Nebraska
71	Jenkins, Kerry	G	6-5	295	09/06/1973	5 Troy State
66	Mack, Kendall	T	6-4	322	07/18/1975	0 Auburn
69	Pierson, Pete	T	6-5	315	02/04/1971	7 Washington
67	Walker, Kenyatta	T	6-5	302	02/01/1979	1 Florida
75	Washington, Todd	C	6-3	324	07/19/1976	4 Virginia Tech
71	Wunsch, Jerry	T	6-6	339	01/21/1974	5 Wisconsin

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
40	Alstott, Mike	RB	6-1	248	12/21/1973	6 Purdue
43	Cook, Jameel	RB	5-10	227	02/08/1979	1 Illinois
24	Hanspard, Byron	RB	5-10	200	01/23/1976	2 Texas Tech
48	Kirby, Charles	RB	6-1	249	11/27/1974	1 Virginia
32	Pittman, Michael	RB	6-0	218	08/14/1975	4 Fresno State
22	Stecker, Aaron	RB	5-10	205	11/13/1975	2 Western Illinois

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
84	Battaglia, Marco	TE	6-3	249	01/25/1973	6 Rutgers
85	Dilger, Ken	TE	6-5	253	02/02/1971	7 Illinois
84	Green, E.G.	WR	5-11	190	06/28/1975	3 Florida State
19	Johnson, Keyshawn	WR	6-4	212	07/22/1972	6 Southern California
84	Jurevicius, Joe	WR	6-5	230	12/23/1974	4 Penn State
87	Murphy, Frank	WR	6-0	200	02/11/1977	2 Kansas State
81	Poole, Keith	WR	6-0	193	06/18/1974	5 Arizona State
89	Roberg, Mike	TE	6-4	263	09/18/1977	1 Idaho
86	Williams, Karl	WR	5-10	177	04/10/1971	6 Texas A&M-Kingsville
88	Wynn, Milton	WR	6-2	207	09/21/1976	1 Washington State
80	Yoder, Todd	TE	6-4	234	03/18/1978	2 Vanderbilt

#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
91	Darby, Chartric	DE	6-0	270	10/22/1975	1 South Carolina State
78	Jones, Marcus	DE	6-6	278	08/15/1973	6 North Carolina
92	McFarland, Anthony	NT	6-0	300	12/18/1977	3 LSU
97	Rice, Simeon	DE	6-5	268	02/24/1974	6 Illinois
99	Sapp, Warren	DT	6-2	303	12/19/1972	7 Miami (FL)
96	Spires, Greg	DE	6-1	265	08/12/1974	4 Florida State
96	Wynms, Ellis	DT	6-3	282	04/12/1979	1 Mississippi State

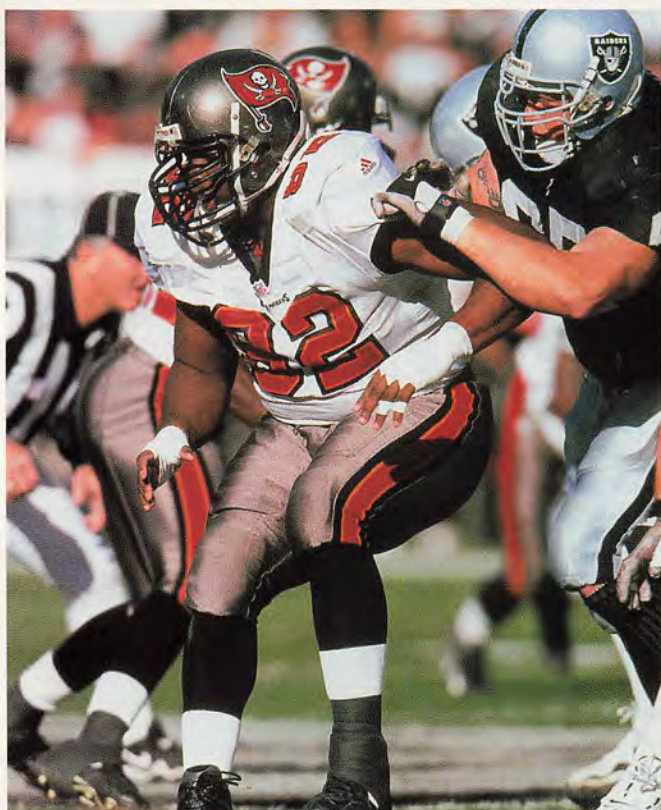
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
20	Barber, Ronde	CB	5-10	184	04/07/1975	5 Virginia
23	Chamblin, Corey	CB	5-10	189	05/29/1977	1 Tennessee Tech
46	Gibson, David	S	6-1	210	11/05/1977	2 Southern California
38	Howell, John	S	5-11	196	04/28/1978	1 Colorado State
35	Ivy, Corey	CB	5-8	183	03/29/1977	1 Oklahoma
34	Jackson, Dexter	S	6-0	196	07/28/1977	3 Florida State
25	Kelly, Brian	CB	5-11	193	01/14/1976	4 Southern California
47	Lynch, John	S	6-2	220	09/25/1971	9 Stanford
30	Midget, Anthony	CB	5-11	193	02/22/1978	0 Virginia Tech
26	Smith, Dwight	CB	5-10	212	08/13/1978	1 Akron

#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
55	Brooks, Derrick	LB	6-0	235	04/18/1973	7 Florida State
51	Golden, Jack	LB	6-1	240	01/28/1977	2 Oklahoma State
45	Jones, Chris	LB	5-10	229	09/30/1976	0 Clemson
53	Quarles, Shelton	LB	6-1	230	09/11/1971	5 Vanderbilt
51	Singleton, Alshermund	LB	6-2	228	08/07/1975	5 Temple
52	Webster, Nate	LB	5-11	225	11/29/1977	2 Miami (FL)

#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
7	Gramatica, Martin	K	5-8	170	11/27/1975	3 Kansas State
	Leaverton, David	P	6-3	210	04/01/1978	0 Tennessee

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
3	21	Walker, Marquise	WR	6-2	213	12/11/1978	Michigan
4	21	Stephens, Travis	RB	5-8	194	06/26/1978	Tennessee
5	22	Phillips, Jermaine	S	6-1	214	03/27/1979	Georgia
6	21	Stamper, John	DE	6-4	265	08/30/1978	South Carolina
7	22	Wansley, Tim	CB	5-8	180	11/11/1978	Georgia
7	39	Wistrom, Tracey	TE	6-4	245	08/28/1978	Nebraska
7	43	Lockett, Aaron	WR	5-7	155	09/06/1978	Kansas State
7	44	Quaccia, Zack	C	6-4	309	04/20/1979	Stanford



Anthony McFarland came into his own in his third season, starting 14 games at defensive tackle and finishing second on the defensive front with 59 tackles.

at strong safety and Dexter Jackson is expected to improve at free safety. Dwight Smith, David Gibson and John Howell are backups, joined by late draft picks Jermaine Phillips and Tim Wansley.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Martin Gramatica's field goal percentage dropped last year, but he remains one of the league's more reliable kickers. The Bucs hope David Leaverton, Tim Morgan or rookie Mike Abrams replace departed punter Mark Royals. Karl Williams returns punts and kickoffs, and seventh-rounder Aaron Lockett of Kansas State will help on punts.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	NEW ORLEANS	4:15
September 15	at Baltimore	1:00
September 23	ST. LOUIS	9:00
September 29	at Cincinnati	4:05
October 6	at Atlanta	1:00
October 13	CLEVELAND	4:15
October 20	at Philadelphia	1:00
October 27	at Carolina	1:00
November 3	MINNESOTA	1:00
November 10	OPEN DATE	
November 17	CAROLINA	4:05
November 24	GREEN BAY	1:00
December 1	at New Orleans	8:30
December 8	ATLANTA	1:00
December 15	at Detroit	1:00
December 23	PITTSBURGH	9:00
December 29	at Chicago	8:30

All times Eastern



# New Orleans Saints

## With the Deuce on the loose, Saints hope to go playoff marching again.

**T**he meltdown of the Saints was so baffling that half the team skipped town, it seems, to avoid embarrassment. Outscored 78-0 over the final seven quarters of the season, the Saints quit on coach Jim Haslett and cleaned out their lockers. After winning the NFC West in 2000 and winning their first playoff game ever, the Saints appeared to be heading in the right direction. Alas, they remembered who they are.

Even General Manager Randy Mueller, the NFL's Executive of the Year in 2000, appeared

ready to seek new employment as he explored his options in Atlanta at the Super Bowl. If Haslett and Mueller can't rebound dramatically this year, they could face the same fate that befell predecessors Mike Ditka and Bill Kuharich.

The offseason got off to a dramatic start when running back Ricky Williams was traded to the Miami Dolphins. After back-to-back 1,000-yard seasons, Williams was dumped to make way for Haslett's first No. 1 pick, Deuce McAllister. The departure started an avalanche.

Gone are All-Pro left tackle Willie Roaf, who couldn't get along with Haslett and some of his teammates; defensive tackle La'Roi Glover, who led the league in sacks in 2000; outstanding defensive end Joe Johnson, whom the Saints wanted desperately to keep; productive but injured tight end Cam Cleeland; guard Chris Naeole, Ditka's first No. 1 pick; and experienced backup quarterback Jeff Blake. The Saints bid good riddance to disruptive locker room influence and reluctant wide receiver Albert Connell.

To help replace the fallout, the Saints brought in a busload of free agents, including cornerback Dale Carter (whose \$28 million contract didn't deter him from declaring bankruptcy) and linebacker Bryan Cox. Cox is an outspoken leader who will provide the defense with the same kind of in-your-face fire and brimstone that tackle Kyle Turley gives the offense.

This team is as likely to consume itself by spontaneous combustion as it is to win. But Haslett and Mueller know they have nothing to lose but their jobs.

*Since arriving in New Orleans in 2000, six-year veteran receiver Joe Horn has found a home in the Saints' offense, catching 94 passes two seasons ago and 83 in 2001.*



A linebacker at Southern Cal, Sammy Knight has steadily become one of the most dependable safeties in the NFC.

### OFFENSE

Again directing the three-ring circus is young quarterback Aaron Brooks, who is expected to benefit greatly from a retooled supporting cast. McAllister provides more speed and explosiveness than Williams and is likely to be more effective in the passing game. His durability was a question mark coming out of Ole Miss, so he must avoid the injuries that plagued Williams in his first two seasons. Terrelle Smith is an excellent blocker at fullback if he has recovered from back problems.

The Saints will miss the security of Blake as the backup quarterback because newly-acquired Jeff Lewis couldn't make a dent at Carolina when given the chance.

Receiver Joe Horn, the object of Roaf's disaffection, is a big-play threat who should flourish now that No. 1 draft choice Donte' Stallworth and speedy free agent Jerome Pathon from Indianapolis have joined the lineup. Stallworth was the fastest receiver in the draft. The Saints also reacquired big Jake Reed from the Vikings and brought in tight end David Sloan from Detroit. Last year's surprise thousand-yard receiver, Willie Jackson, was exploring his free-agent options at press time.

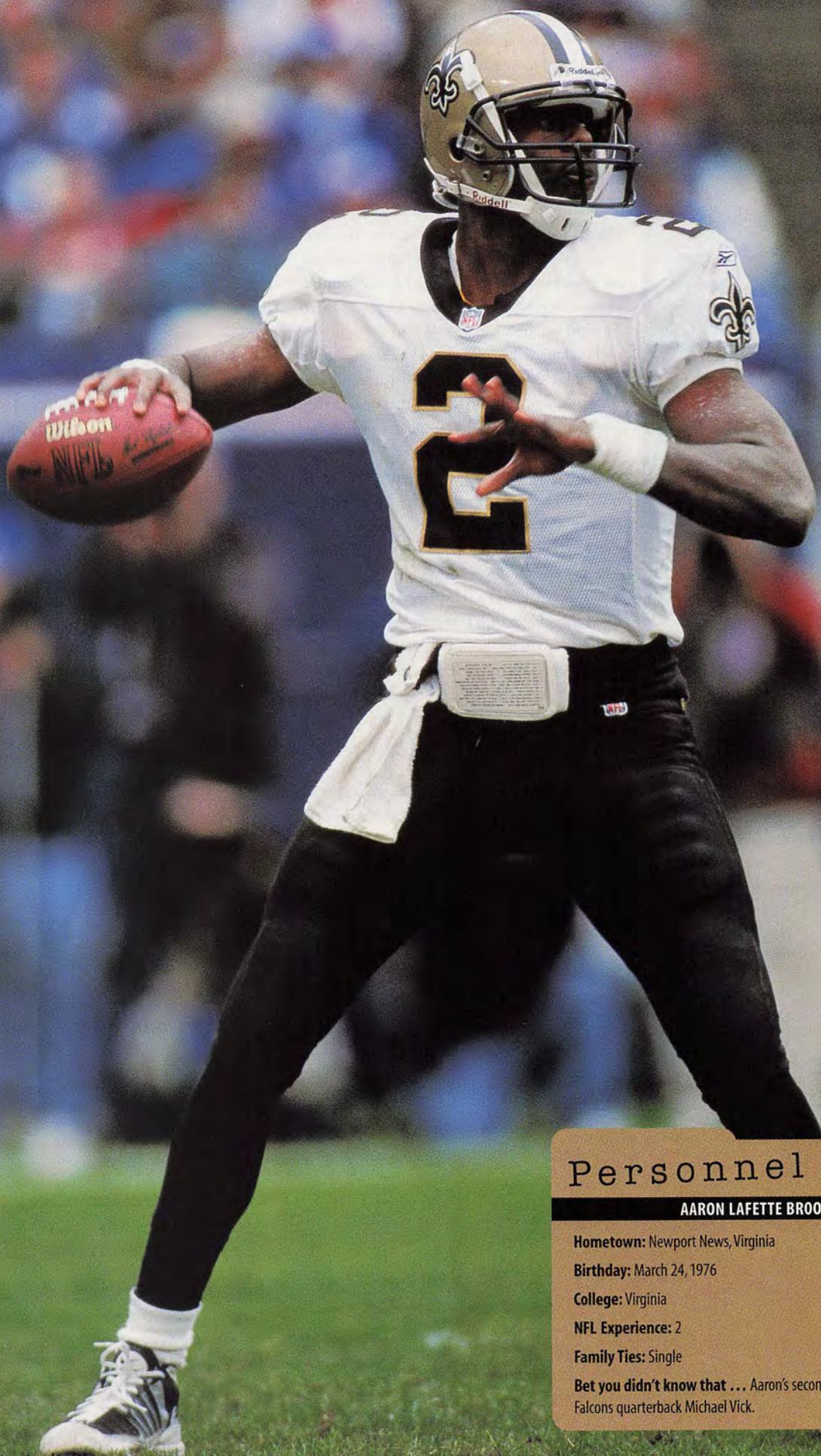


## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	326.6	10	TOTAL DEFENSE	316.9	16T
RUSHING	107.0	18T	AGAINST RUSH	107.2	14
PASSING	219.6	10	AGAINST PASS	209.7	17
SCORING	333	13	PTS. ALLOWED	409	27
PUNT RETURNS	7.8	27	INTERCEPTIONS	15	15
KICK RETURNS	23.3	6	SACKS	53	1
RED ZONE TD %	50.9	13	TURNOVER DIFF.	-5	21







## Personnel File

### AARON LAFETTE BROOKS

**Hometown:** Newport News, Virginia

**Birthday:** March 24, 1976

**College:** Virginia

**NFL Experience:** 2

**Family Ties:** Single

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Aaron's second cousin is Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick.





*With the trade of Ricky Williams to Miami, Deuce McAllister takes on the pressure of being the Saints' feature back.*

Turley will move from right tackle to fill Roaf's spot. Turley played the left side in college. Ex-Chief Victor Riley will start at right tackle and ex-Dolphin tackle Spencer Folau will slide to

right guard to replace Naeole. Veteran left guard Wally Williams and center Jerry Fontenot return, and second-round draft pick LeCharles Bentley will push for playing time early. Daryl Terrell, Tutan Reyes and Mitch White are backups on the line.

## DEFENSE

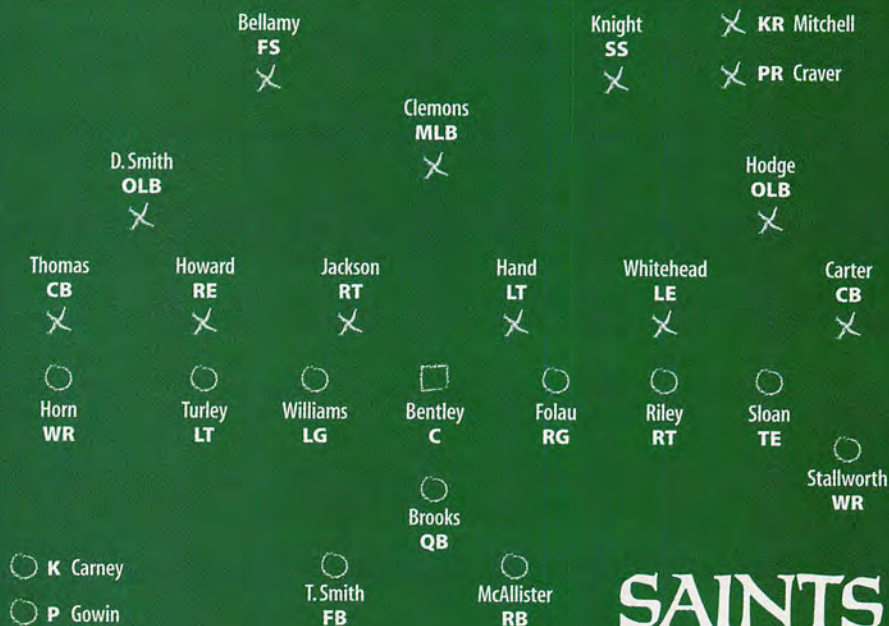
Defensive coordinator Ron Zook went to Florida to replace Steve Spurrier, but the elevation of veteran coach Rick Venturi to coordinator gives Haslett continuity. The loss of Johnson poses a bigger problem because left end Darren Howard will be asked to switch to the right side and backup Willie Whitehead will try to replace Howard at left end. Johnson's departure forced the Saints to use the first-round draft choice they got from Miami for Ricky Williams on a defensive end, Charles Grant of Georgia.

Grady Jackson was added from Oakland to bolster the void at defensive tackle left by Glover. Jackson will play beside Norman Hand, giving the Saints about 700 pounds in the middle. Martin Chase and Kenny Smith are in reserve.

Cox is valuable as a role player and run stuffer on a linebacking corps that plays softer than most and needs to improve. Middle linebacker Charlie Clemons is most valuable as a pass rusher, and Sedrick Hodge will replace either Darrin Smith or Keith Mitchell outside, with third-rounder James Allen pressing for time. Roger Knight and Curtis Holden are backups.

Carter has incentive to make money and reclaim a once-promising career at cornerback. He has the talent to make a difference by himself. Haslett praised cornerback Fred Thomas as one

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

**Won 7, Lost 9**

DATE		SCORE	
09/09	W	24-6	at Buffalo
09/30	L	13-21	at N.Y. Giants
10/07	W	28-15	Minnesota
10/14	W	27-25	at Carolina
10/21	L	13-20	Atlanta
10/28	W	34-31	at St. Louis
11/04	L	9-16	N.Y. Jets
11/11	L	27-28	at San Francisco
11/18	W	34-20	Indianapolis
11/25	L	17-34	at New England
12/02	W	27-23	Carolina
12/09	W	28-10	at Atlanta
12/17	L	21-34	St. Louis
12/23	L	21-48	at Tampa Bay
12/30	L	10-40	Washington
01/06	L	0-38	San Francisco

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Williams	313	1245	4.0	46	6
Brooks	80	358	4.5	26	1
McAllister	16	91	5.7	54	1
Smith	5	8	1.6	6	0
Connell	1	6	6.0	6	0
Horn	1	4	4.0	4	0
McAfee	1	2	2.0	2	0

Team	419	1712	4.1	54t	8
Opponents	443	1715	3.9	55	15

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Horn	83	1265	15.2	56	9
W.Jackson	81	1046	12.9	63	5
R.Williams	60	511	8.5	42	1
R.Wilson	21	277	13.2	44	0
Bo.Williams	20	202	10.1	26	3
McAllister	15	166	11.1	22	1
Cleeland	13	138	10.6	19	4
Connell	12	191	15.9	46	2
T.Smith	4	30	7.5	12	2
L.Hall	2	15	7.5	9	0
Stachelski	1	5	5.0	5	0

Team	313	3844	12.3	63	27
Opponents	278	3678	13.2	86t	30

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Brooks	558	312	3832	26	22
McAllister	2	1	12	1	0
Blake	1	0	0	0	0
Horn	1	0	0	0	0

Team	562	313	3844	27	22
Opponents	452	278	3678	30	15

## SACKS

Clemons 13.5, Johnson 9.0, Glover 8.0, Howard 6.0, Hand 3.5,  
Oldham 2.5, Bellamy 2.0, Mitchell 2.0, Whitehead 2.0, Smith 1.5,  
Chase 1.0, Knight 1.0. Mathis 1.0

Saints 53.0, Opponents 50.0





Teaming with Joe Horn to give the Saints their first 1,000-yard receiving tandem in franchise history, 30-year-old journeyman Willie Jackson enjoyed the best season of his career with highs in receptions (81) and receiving yards (1,046).

of the best in the league last season. Fourth-round pick Keyuo Craver will help. Strong safety Sammy Knight is coming off a Pro Bowl season in which he led the team in interceptions and fumble recoveries. The free safety is Jay Bellamy. Fifth-rounder Mel Mitchell, Kevin Mathis, Chris Oldham and Richard Newsome are in reserve.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Punter Toby Gowin and kicker John Carney give Haslett a reliable team inside the Superdome. Without McAllister to return kicks, last year's summer sensation, Mike Lewis, will have another chance to avoid fumbles, although Craver and Mitchell could push.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Tampa Bay	4:15
September 15	GREEN BAY	1:00
September 22	at Chicago	1:00
September 29	at Detroit	1:00
October 6	PITTSBURGH	1:00
October 13	at Washington	1:00
October 20	SAN FRANCISCO	1:00
October 27	ATLANTA	1:00
November 3	OPEN DATE	
November 10	at Carolina	1:00
November 17	at Atlanta	1:00
November 24	CLEVELAND	1:00
December 1	TAMPA BAY	8:30
December 8	at Baltimore	4:05
December 15	MINNESOTA	1:00
December 21	at Cincinnati	1:00
December 29	CAROLINA	1:00

All times Eastern

## NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Jim Haslett, head coach

Hubbard Alexander, wide receivers; Dave Atkins, running backs; Joe Baker, secondary/special teams;

Mike Sheppard, quarterbacks; Sam Clancy, defensive line; Alan Everest, special teams;

Rock Gullickson, strength and conditioning; Evan Marcus, asst. strength and conditioning;

Jack Henry, offensive line; Mike McCarthy, offensive coordinator; Winston Moss, defensive assistant;

Bob Palcio, offensive line; Danny Langsdorf, offensive assistant/quality control; Rick Venturi, defensive coordinator;

Paul Chryst, defensive asst./quality control; Jim Hostler, asst. wide receivers; Mike Riley, asst. head coach/secondary

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
2	Brooks, Aaron	QB	6-4	205	03/24/1976	2	Virginia
12	Delhomme, Jake	QB	6-2	205	01/10/1975	1	Southwestern Louisiana
8	Lewis, Jeff	QB	6-2	211	04/17/1973	4	Northern Arizona
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
60	Folau, Spencer	T	6-5	315	04/05/1973	5	Idaho
62	Fontenot, Jerry	C	6-3	300	11/21/1966	13	Texas A&M
76	Reyes, Tutan	T	6-3	299	10/28/1977	1	Mississippi
66	Riley, Victor	T	6-5	328	11/04/1974	4	Auburn
63	Romero, John	T	6-3	326	10/03/1976	0	California
74	Sanderson, Scott	G	6-6	295	07/25/1974	4	Washington State
78	Terrell, Daryl	T	6-5	296	01/25/1975	3	Southern Mississippi
68	Turley, Kyle	T	6-5	300	09/24/1975	4	San Diego State
79	White, Mitch	T	6-4	311	03/25/1978	0	Oregon State
63	Williams, Wally	G	6-2	321	02/19/1971	9	Florida A&M
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
27	Fenderson, James	RB	5-9	188	10/24/1976	1	Hawaii
47	Houser, Kevin	RB	6-2	250	08/23/1977	2	Ohio State
25	McAfee, Fred	RB	5-10	193	06/20/1968	11	Mississippi College
26	McAllister, Deuce	RB	6-1	221	12/27/1978	1	Mississippi
33	Norris, Moran	RB	6-1	250	06/16/1978	1	Kansas
44	Smith, Terrelle	RB	6-0	246	03/12/1978	2	Arizona State
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
81	Hall, Lamont	TE	6-4	260	11/16/1974	3	Clemson
87	Horn, Joe	WR	6-1	206	01/16/1972	6	Itawamba J.C.
84	Lewis, Michael	WR	5-8	165	11/14/1971	1	None
89	McGarity, Wane	WR	5-8	192	09/30/1976	3	Texas
83	Mitchell, Johnny	TE	6-3	241	01/20/1971	5	Nebraska
86	Ojo, Onomo	WR	6-4	205	06/03/1977	0	California-Davis
86	Pathon, Jerome	WR	6-0	182	12/16/1975	4	Washington
86	Reed, Jake	WR	6-3	213	09/28/1967	11	Grambling
86	Sloan, David	TE	6-6	260	06/08/1972	7	New Mexico
82	Williams, Eddie	TE	6-4	235	06/22/1979	1	Arkansas
80	Wilson, Robert	WR	5-11	176	06/23/1974	4	Florida A&M
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
92	Chase, Martin	DT	6-2	310	12/19/1974	3	Oklahoma
99	Hand, Norman	DT	6-3	310	09/04/1972	6	Mississippi
93	Howard, Darren	DE	6-3	281	11/19/1976	2	Kansas State
90	Jackson, Grady	DT	6-2	325	01/21/1973	5	Knoxville
90	Smith, Kenny	DT	6-4	289	09/08/1977	1	Alabama
98	Whitehead, William	DE	6-3	285	01/26/1973	3	Auburn
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
20	Bellamy, Jay	S	5-11	200	07/08/1972	8	Rutgers
21	Carter, Dale	CB	6-1	188	11/28/1969	9	Tennessee
41	Carter, Tim	CB	6-0	183	07/15/1978	1	Tulane
37	Gleason, Steve	S	5-11	215	03/19/1977	2	Washington State
36	Hawthorne, Michael	CB	6-3	196	01/26/1977	2	Purdue
27	Irvin, Ken	CB	5-11	186	07/11/1972	7	Memphis
29	Knight, Sammy	S	6-0	205	09/10/1975	5	Southern California
23	Mathis, Kevin	CB	5-9	185	04/29/1974	5	Texas A&M-Commerce
33	Moronkola, Dee	CB	5-10	188	07/01/1977	0	Washington State
31	Newsome, Richard	S	5-11	202	12/06/1977	1	Michigan State
22	Thomas, Fred	CB	5-9	184	09/11/1973	6	Tennessee-Martin
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
50	Clarke, Phil	LB	6-0	241	01/09/1977	3	Pittsburgh
56	Clemons, Charlie	LB	6-2	250	07/04/1972	4	Georgia
51	Cox, Bryan	LB	6-4	250	02/17/1968	11	Western Illinois
52	Hodge, Sedrick	LB	6-4	244	09/13/1978	1	North Carolina
57	Holden, Curtis	LB	6-2	232	03/17/1979	1	Washington State
58	Jackson, Jonathan	LB	6-2	248	09/02/1977	1	Oregon State
53	Knight, Roger	LB	6-0	236	10/11/1978	1	Wisconsin
59	Mitchell, Keith	LB	6-2	245	07/24/1974	5	Texas A&M
54	Smith, Darrin	LB	6-1	230	04/15/1970	9	Miami (FL)
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
3	Carney, John	K	5-11	180	04/20/1964	14	Notre Dame
4	Gowin, Toby	P	5-10	167	03/30/1975	5	North Texas

## 2002 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	13	Stallworth, Donte'	WR	6-0	197	11/10/1980	Tennessee
1	25	Grant, Charles	DE	6-3	282	09/03/1978	Georgia
2	12	Bentley, LeCharles	C	6-2	299	11/07/1979	Ohio State
3	17	Allen, James	LB	6-2	240	11/11/1979	Oregon State
4	27	Craver, Keyuo	CB	5-11	201	08/22/1980	Nebraska
5	15	Mitchell, Mel	S	6-1	220	02/02/1979	Western Kentucky
6	14	O'Sullivan, J.T.	QB	6-2	223	08/25/1979	California-Davis
6	24	Gilmore, John	TE	6-3	265	09/21/1979	Penn State
7	13	Monroe, Derrius	DE	6-4	269	07/21/1978	Virginia Tech



## Falcons have much-improved running game, but who the heck is Vick going to throw it to?

**A**fter turning Home Depot into a handyman's empire, Arthur Blank takes on a real building project in the Falcons. He paid \$545 million for a team that still can't figure out how it got to a Super Bowl in 1998 or why it lost five of its last six games last year.

The building starts with franchise quarterback Michael Vick, the No. 1 pick in last year's draft. Trouble is, the building seems to end with Vick as well, at least on offense. And speaking of build-

ings, the Georgia Dome has become a lonely place since the Falcons' slide from the top of the NFC. If

Vick can help fill seats, the won-loss record won't matter for a few months.

Vick inherited the top job when the Falcons cut ties with 36-year-old Chris Chandler, leaving the youngster with only Doug Johnson peering over his shoulder. The drafting of Illinois quarterback Kurt Kittner in the fifth round was strictly for emergency. Vick praised Chandler as helpful in his development, but Chandler never did embrace the idea of holding any successor's hand, especially when he clearly was the superior passer.

### OFFENSE

Excitement is Vick's forte, and old-school coach Dan Reeves has no choice but to allow the kid's spectacular talent to shine, no matter how many games are sacrificed. How often is your quarterback the fastest player on your team? Sitting in the pocket like Chandler did is not the way Vick was designed to play the position.

Handing off to Jamal Anderson was one way Chandler excelled, but that's also in the past. Blank wrote a blank check to Tampa Bay's little Warrick Dunn, a \$6.5 million signing bonus to join Vick's parade as the feature back. Then the Falcons surprised everybody by making Michigan State power back T.J. Duckett their No. 1 draft choice. Maybe Vick will be handing off, after all. Dunn's elusiveness plus his ability as a receiver out of the backfield should double the excitement factor in the Falcon huddle. It also means fullback Bob Christian is unlikely to be the team's second-leading receiver. Maurice Smith was adequate as Anderson's replacement last season.

*Veteran corner Ray Buchanan has intercepted more passes (27) of any NFL player over the last five years.*



*Like Jessie Tuggle before him, Falcon middle linebacker Keith Brooking has played his entire football career in the state of Georgia—at East Coweta High, Georgia Tech and four seasons with the Falcons.*

After cutting starting receivers Tony Martin and Terance Mathis, the Falcons are scrambling to replace them with speedier versions capable of exploiting Vick's rocket arm. Vick is not the most accurate passer, but he can rifle the ball downfield, especially on the run. That means a fast receiver or two is advisable. The Falcons added Alvis Whitted and Travis McGriff, both of whom fit that mold better than projected starters Brian Finneran and Shawn Jefferson. Ex-Charger Jeff Graham will also be a major contributor. Late-round picks Kahlil Hill, son of ex-pro J.D., and small-school speedster Michael Coleman could figure in. The Falcons' receiver corps is most talented at tight end, where Alge Crumpler and Reggie Kelly are two recent high draft picks.

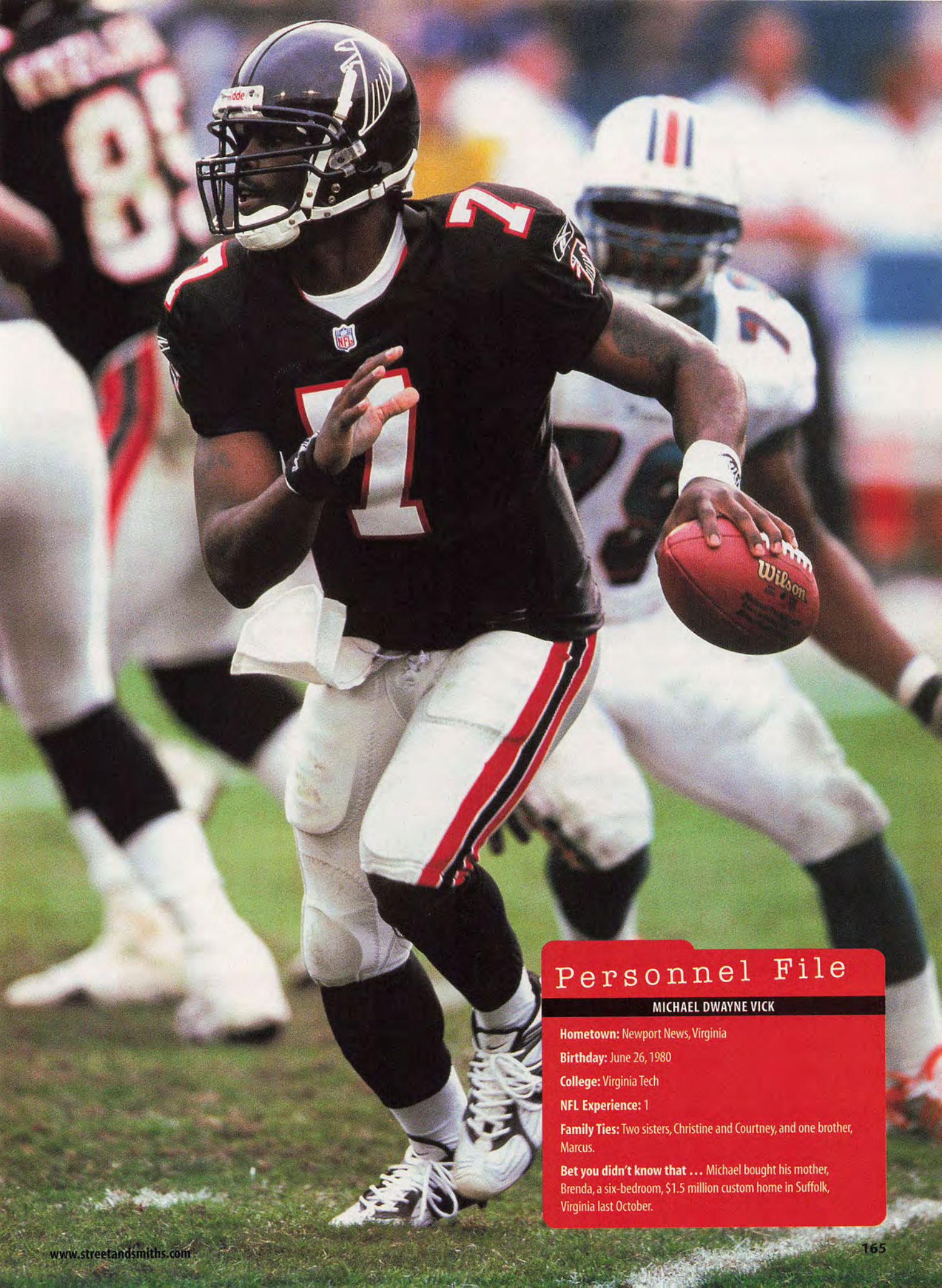
To protect the left-handed Vick's backside better than departed right tackle Ephraim Salaam did last year, the Falcons signed promising Todd Weiner from Seattle and overpaid him with a \$5.5 million bonus, a ton for a career backup. But the Falcons gave up 64 sacks last season and are desperate. Left tackle Bob Whitfield remains a fixture, but the rest of the line is not so stable, so fourth-round draft pick Martin Bibla from

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	316.9	15	TOTAL DEFENSE	365.3	30
RUSHING	110.8	16	AGAINST RUSH	121.4	21
PASSING	206.1	17	AGAINST PASS	243.9	30
SCORING	291	23	PTS. ALLOWED	377	24
PUNT RETURNS	13.6	1	INTERCEPTIONS	18	12
KICK RETURNS	22.8	10	SACKS	37	20
RED ZONE TD %	40.4	28	TURNOVER DIFF.	+2	13T







## Personnel File

**MICHAEL DWAYNE VICK**

**Hometown:** Newport News, Virginia

**Birthday:** June 26, 1980

**College:** Virginia Tech

**NFL Experience:** 1

**Family Ties:** Two sisters, Christine and Courtney, and one brother, Marcus.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Michael bought his mother, Brenda, a six-bedroom, \$1.5 million custom home in Suffolk, Virginia last October.



Miami could move into the starting spot at left guard, with guard Robert Garza challenging Todd McClure at center. The right guard is Kynan Forney. Improvement by former second-round pick Travis Claridge would be welcome.

## DEFENSE

Wade Phillips returned from coaching limbo as the Falcons' third defensive coordinator in three years after the team finished 30th in total defense and in passing yards allowed. Phillips likes the 3-4 defense, and appears ready to switch from the 4-3 that allowed 377 points in 2001, 24th in the league.

The front line of ends Patrick Kerney and Brady Smith and tackles Travis Hall and Shane Dronett is active but undersized, and may be too small to become effective in a 3-4. John Thierry joined the group from Green Bay and also is undersized as a down end. The signing of free-agent inside linebacker John Holecsek from San Diego and the drafting of linebacker/defensive end Will Overstreet from Tennessee in the third round foreshadows a switch to the 3-4.

Ed Jasper re-signed and is slated as the 3-4 nose tackle, with Hall shifting to end opposite Smith. Kerney and Thierry would be the outside linebackers. Holecsek, who played for Phillips in Buffalo, would fill the middle alongside budding star Keith Brooking. In his first season in the middle in the conventional 4-3, Brooking was outstanding. Thierry replaces departed Henri Crockett.

*The Falcons believe they added needed versatility to their offense with the free-agent addition of former Tampa Bay star Warrick Dunn.*

Mark Simoneau will vie with Holecsek for playing time inside. Second-year linebacker Matt Stewart also is expected to come on.

Cornerbacks Ashley Ambrose and Ray Buchanan are the strength of the secondary, where Phillips needs help in the middle. He brought in free safety Keion Carpenter, who



## PROJECTED STARTERS

Carpenter FS X		McBurrows SS X		KR Vaughn X	
Simoneau ILB X		Brooking ILB X		PR Rossum X	
Thierry OLB X				Kerney OLB X	
Ambrose CB X	Smith RE X	Jasper NT X	Hall LE X	Buchanan CB X	
Jefferson WR ○	Whitfield LT ○	Bibla LG ○	Garza C □	Forney RG ○	Weiner RT ○
				Kelly TE ○	Finneran WR ○
		Vick QB ○			
K Feely ○	Christian FB ○	Dunn RB ○			
P Mohr ○					



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 7, Lost 9

DATE		SCORE	
09/09	L	13-16	at San Francisco
09/23	W	24-16	Carolina
09/30	W	34-14	at Arizona
10/07	L	3-31	Chicago
10/14	L	31-37	San Francisco
10/21	W	20-13	at New Orleans
11/04	L	10-24	New England
11/11	W	20-13	Dallas
11/18	W	23-20	at Green Bay
11/25	W	10-7	at Carolina
12/02	L	6-35	St. Louis
12/09	L	10-28	New Orleans
12/16	L	27-41	at Indianapolis
12/23	W	33-30	Buffalo
12/30	L	14-21	at Miami
01/06	L	13-31	at St. Louis

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Smith	237	760	3.2	58	5
Vick	29	300	10.3	35	1
Christian	44	284	6.5	53	2
Anderson	55	190	3.5	14	1
Thomas	37	126	3.4	21	0
Chandler	25	84	3.4	22	0
Johnson	5	12	2.4	8	0
McCord	2	11	5.5	8	0
Jervey	3	6	2.0	2	0

Team	439	1762	4.0	58	9
Opponents	405	1943	4.8	68t	13

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Mathis	51	564	11.1	34	2
Christian	45	392	8.7	42	2
Martin	37	548	14.8	63	3
Jefferson	37	539	14.6	48	2
Crumpler	25	330	13.2	57	3
Finneran	23	491	21.3	52	3
M. Smith	19	230	12.1	79	1
R. Kelly	16	142	8.9	25	0
Kozlowski	15	270	18.0	46	1
Anderson	3	111	37.0	94	1
McCord	3	53	17.7	26	0
Thomas	2	26	13.0	15	0
Rackley	1	1	1.0	1	1

Team	278	3695	13.3	94t	19
Opponents	331	4132	12.5	65t	29

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Chandler	365	223	2847	16	14
Vick	113	50	785	2	3
Mohr	2	2	40	0	0
Johnson	5	3	23	1	0

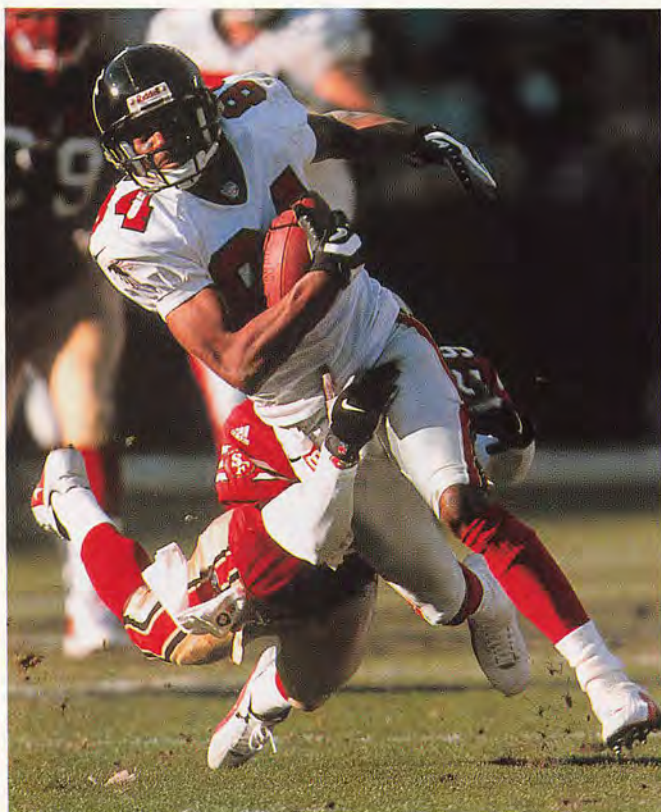
Team	485	278	3695	19	17
Opponents	515	331	4132	29	18

## SACKS

Kerney 12.0, Smith 7.5, Dronett 5.5, Jasper 4.0, Brooking 3.5, Hall 2.5, Bradford 1.0, Wiley 1.0

Falcons 37.0, Opponents 66.0





With no help coming from the draft, the Falcons may be asking a lot for veteran Shawn Jefferson to greatly improve on his 37 catches of 2001.

played for Phillips in Buffalo, and Keith Lyle from Washington. Ronnie Bradford is gone and Gerald McBurrows and Chris Hudson are marginal players, so fifth-round pick Kevin McCadam will get every chance to play at strong safety. So will holdover Johnndale Carty. The addition of kick-return specialist Allen Rossum from Green Bay gives Phillips another nickel back.

### SPECIAL TEAMS

Rossum joins another kick-return specialist, Darrick Vaughn, on a formidable unit that also features second-year placekicker Jay Feely and veteran punter Chris Mohr.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Green Bay	1:00
September 15	CHICAGO	1:00
September 22	CINCINNATI	8:30
September 29	OPEN DATE	
October 6	TAMPA BAY	1:00
October 13	at NY Giants	1:00
October 20	CAROLINA	1:00
October 27	at New Orleans	1:00
November 3	BALTIMORE	1:00
November 10	at Pittsburgh	1:00
November 17	NEW ORLEANS	1:00
November 24	at Carolina	1:00
December 1	at Minnesota	1:00
December 8	at Tampa Bay	1:00
December 15	SEATTLE	1:00
December 21	DETROIT	1:00
December 29	at Cleveland	1:00

All times Eastern

## ATLANTA FALCONS

Dan Reeves, head coach

Marvin Bass, assistant to head coach-pro personnel; Emmitt Thomas, secondary; Jack Burns, quarterbacks; Rocky Colburn, asst. strength and conditioning; James Daniel, tight ends; Billy Davis, linebackers; Joe DeCamillis, special teams; Al Miller, strength and conditioning; Jerry Rhome, offensive coordinator; Mike Johnson, wide receivers; Ed West, offensive quality control; Dennis Allen, defensive quality control; Ollie Wilson, running backs; Wade Phillips, defensive coordinator

#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
11	Johnson, Doug	QB	6-2	225	10/27/1977	2 Florida
7	Vick, Michael	QB	6-0	215	06/28/1980	1 Virginia Tech
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
71	Claridge, Travis	G	6-5	300	03/23/1978	2 Southern California
65	Forney, Kynan	G	6-2	305	09/08/1978	1 Hawaii
63	Garza, Robert	C	6-2	296	03/26/1979	1 Texas A&M-Kingsville
64	Hallen, Bob	G	6-4	295	03/09/1975	4 Kent
73	Kadela, Dave	T	6-6	287	05/06/1978	1 Virginia Tech
62	McClure, Todd	C	6-1	286	02/16/1977	2 LSU
62	Page, Craig	C	6-3	303	01/17/1976	1 Georgia Tech
67	Shepherd, Gannon	T	6-8	317	01/04/1977	1 Duke
66	Thompson, Michael	T	6-4	295	02/11/1977	2 Tennessee State
74	Weiner, Todd	T	6-4	300	09/16/1975	4 Kansas State
70	Whitfield, Bob	T	6-5	310	10/18/1971	10 Stanford
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
32	Anderson, Jamal	RB	5-11	237	09/30/1972	8 Utah
44	Christian, Bob	RB	5-11	232	11/14/1968	9 Northwestern
28	Dunn, Warrick	RB	5-8	180	01/05/1975	5 Florida State
36	Jervey, Travis	RB	6-0	222	05/05/1972	7 Citadel
41	Layne, George	RB	6-0	245	10/09/1978	1 Texas Christian
43	Smith, Maurice	RB	6-0	235	09/07/1976	2 North Carolina A&T
20	Thomas, Rodney	RB	5-10	210	03/30/1973	7 Texas A&M
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
83	Crumpler, Alge	TE	6-2	262	12/23/1977	1 North Carolina
86	Finneran, Brian	WR	6-5	210	01/31/1976	3 Villanova
81	Graham, Jeff	WR	6-2	206	02/14/1969	11 Ohio State
84	Jefferson, Shawn	WR	5-11	185	02/22/1969	11 Central Florida
89	Kelly, Reggie	TE	6-3	255	02/22/1977	3 Mississippi State
85	Kozlowski, Brian	TE	6-3	250	10/04/1970	8 Connecticut
88	McCord, Quentin	WR	5-10	188	06/26/1978	1 Kentucky
83	McGriff, Travis	WR	5-8	185	06/24/1976	3 Florida
19	Mills, Shawn	WR	6-1	179	02/10/1977	0 Southern Mississippi
49	Neil, Dallas	TE	6-4	215	09/30/1976	1 Montana
82	Philyaw, Mareno	WR	6-2	208	12/19/1977	1 Troy State
48	Rackley, Derek	TE	6-4	250	07/18/1977	2 Minnesota
86	Whitted, Alvis	WR	6-0	186	09/04/1974	4 North Carolina State
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
75	Dronett, Shane	DT	6-6	300	01/12/1971	10 Texas
79	Flemmons, Ronald	DE	6-5	265	10/20/1979	1 Texas A&M
98	Hall, Travis	DT	6-5	295	08/03/1972	7 Brigham Young
97	Kerney, Patrick	DE	6-5	273	12/30/1976	3 Virginia
65	Miller, Brandon	DT	6-1	299	11/27/1975	1 Georgia
90	Moore, Ron	DT	6-2	326	08/10/1977	1 Northwestern Oklahoma State
91	Smith, Brady	DE	6-5	274	06/05/1973	6 Colorado State
91	Thierry, John	DE	6-4	262	09/04/1971	8 Alcorn State
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
33	Ambrose, Ashley	CB	5-10	187	09/17/1970	10 Mississippi Valley
43	Bolden, Juran	CB	6-2	201	06/27/1974	4 Mississippi Delta
34	Buchanan, Ray	CB	5-9	186	09/29/1971	9 Louisville
29	Carpenter, Keion	S	5-11	205	10/31/1977	3 Virginia Tech
35	Carty, Johnndale	S	6-0	196	08/27/1977	3 Utah State
28	Hall, Corey	S	6-4	190	01/17/1979	1 Appalachian State
35	Lyle, Keith	S	6-2	210	04/17/1972	8 Virginia
22	McBurrows, Gerald	S	5-11	208	10/07/1973	7 Kansas
20	Rossum, Allen	CB	5-8	178	10/22/1975	4 Notre Dame
37	Vaughn, Darrick	CB	5-11	193	10/02/1978	2 Southwest Texas State
24	Weary, Fred	CB	5-10	181	04/12/1974	4 Florida
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
56	Brooking, Keith	LB	6-2	245	10/30/1975	4 Georgia Tech
93	Dalton, Antico	LB	6-1	240	12/31/1975	2 Hampton
54	Draft, Chris	LB	5-11	232	02/26/1976	4 Stanford
52	Holecek, John	LB	6-2	242	05/07/1972	6 Illinois
51	Kelly, Jeff	LB	5-11	256	12/13/1975	2 Kansas State
53	Simoneau, Mark	LB	6-0	234	01/16/1977	2 Kansas State
52	Stewart, Matt	LB	6-3	232	08/31/1979	1 Vanderbilt
50	Ulmer, Artie	LB	6-3	247	07/30/1973	3 Valdosta State
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Feely, Jay	K	5-10	206	05/23/1976	1 Michigan
13	Mohr, Chris	P	6-5	215	05/11/1966	12 Alabama

### 2002 DRAFTTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	18	Duckett, T.J.	RB	6-0	254	02/17/1981	Michigan State
3	15	Overstreet, Will	LB	6-2	255	10/07/1979	Tennessee
4	18	Bibla, Martin	G	6-3	306	10/04/1979	Miami (FL)
5	13	McCadam, Kevin	S	6-0	220	03/06/1979	Virginia Tech
5	23	Kittner, Kurt	QB	6-2	211	01/23/1980	Illinois
6	12	Hill, Kahlil	WR	6-2	200	03/18/1979	Iowa
7	6	Coleman, Michael	WR	5-11	190	09/07/1980	Widener
7	33	Shaffer, Kevin	G	6-5	294	03/02/1980	Tulsa



## New coach Fox will need all of his defensive wile to get anemic Panthers prowling again.

**W**ith nowhere to go but up, the Panthers are finally feeling what it's like to be an expansion team. By advancing to the NFC title game in 1996 in only their second year of existence, the Panthers deluded themselves and fooled their fans.

The promise by owner Jerry Richardson to get to a Super Bowl in 10 years seemed conservative at the time. Now, entering their eighth season, the Panthers and new coach John Fox are starting at rock bottom. With a 1-15 record and his team 30th in the league in offense and 31st in defense, Richardson says he had no choice but to fire George Seifert and begin anew.

Former Giants defensive coordinator Fox is facing a 15-game losing streak because the Panthers' only win was an opening-day road victory in Minnesota. It was the debut of Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Chris Weinke and the future looked bright. Weinke finished as the lowest-rated starter in the NFC, but the Panthers demonstrated their commitment to him by passing up Oregon quarterback Joey Harrington in the draft and taking North Carolina defensive end Julius Peppers.

The Panthers are in need of some serious public-relations work to keep fans interested, and Peppers is a home-grown product who will add excitement. Last season, the Panthers had 193,358 no-shows in eight regular-season home games—an average of 24,169 per game. The highest attendance was 67,417 for the home opener against Green Bay on September 30. The Panthers didn't hit 60,000 for the remainder of the season and bottomed out with a record-low turnout of 21,070 against New England in their final game on January 6.

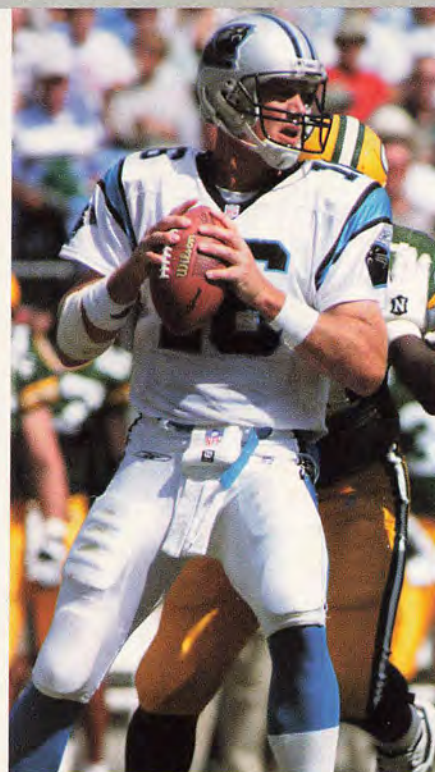
If Peppers is another Lawrence Taylor, as some billboards advertise, he will make an immediate difference. Fox would gladly settle for another Michael Strahan, the pass-rusher supreme Fox left in New York. But nobody expects a rookie to turn around a team by himself.

### OFFENSE

The pressure grows on Weinke to show the kind of improvement many players make from the first year to their second. First, Weinke must show he can overcome the effects of shoulder surgery that kept him out of the team's May minicamp. The Panthers' confidence in Weinke is complete, with only Rodney Peete and Matt Lytle and fifth-rounder Randy Fasani behind him.

Help for Weinke is the main priority. With receiver Patrick Jeffers missing most of the last two seasons with injury, the burden on Muhsin Muhammad reduced his output to 50 catches last season. Leading receiver Donald Hayes (52 catches) went to New England, so new offensive coordinator Dan Henning hopes Isaac Byrd and kick-return specialist Steve Smith can contribute. Prolific tight end Wesley Walls, coming off knee surgery, is expected to resume his role as the top touchdown target. Kris Mangum is the backup tight end who could play in Henning's two-tight end sets.

Henning likes to run and the Panthers haven't been able to produce with oft-injured Tshimanga Biakabutuka, so they cut him and signed Lamar Smith from Miami. Reliable but limited, Smith will keep the position warm for second-round draft pick DeShaun Foster from UCLA, an exciting addition who will have to correct his tendency to fumble. The Panthers



Second-year QB Chris Weinke (top) should lead a more-balanced Carolina attack this season under new offensive coordinator Dan Henning. The Panthers expect to run the ball more. Below, sixth-year safety Mike Minter has been one of the few bright spots on the Panther defense in recent years, starting 46 straight games.

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	265.9	30	TOTAL DEFENSE	371.4	31
RUSHING	85.8	29	AGAINST RUSH	143.8	31
PASSING	180.1	26	AGAINST PASS	227.6	28
SCORING	253	29	PTS. ALLOWED	410	28
PUNT RETURNS	10.8	10	INTERCEPTIONS	24	4
KICK RETURNS	23.3	7	SACKS	26	29
RED ZONE TD %	48.7	15	TURNOVER DIFF.	+1	15





# Personnel File

## MUHSIN MUHAMMAD II

**Hometown:** Lansing, Michigan

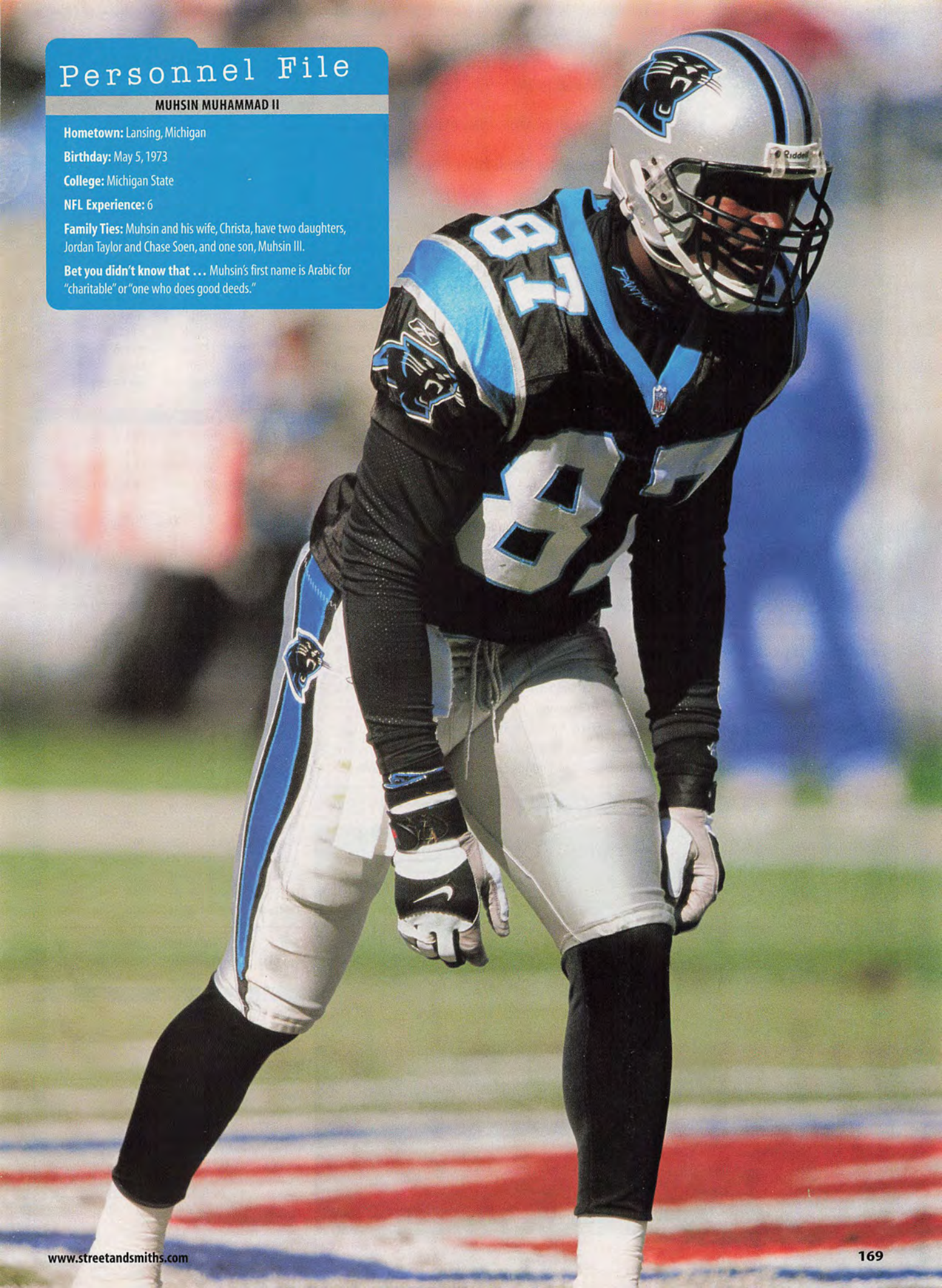
**Birthday:** May 5, 1973

**College:** Michigan State

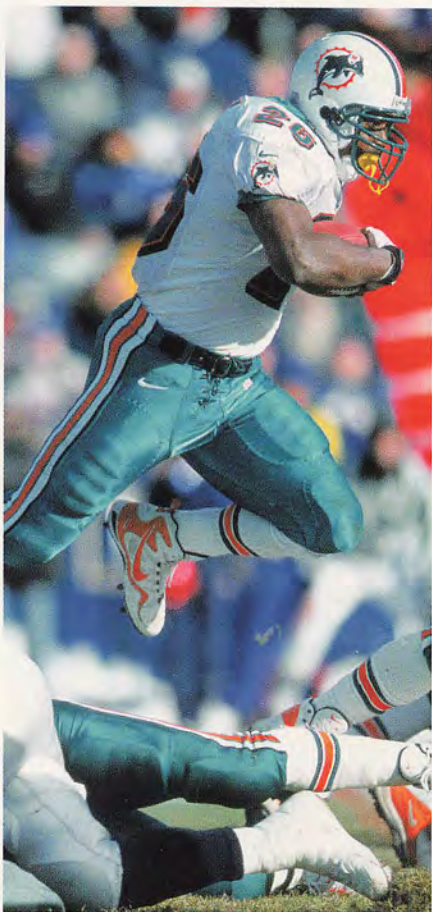
**NFL Experience:** 6

**Family Ties:** Muhsin and his wife, Christa, have two daughters, Jordan Taylor and Chase Soen, and one son, Muhsin III.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Muhsin's first name is Arabic for "charitable" or "one who does good deeds."







The Panthers will turn to offseason acquisition Lamar Smith to boost their anemic running game, hoping he returns to the form that gained him 1,139 yards with 14 touchdowns for Miami during the 2000 season.

also added Joe Montgomery from the Giants. The fullback is Brad Hoover, but since lead blocking is not his forte, the Panthers made

Syracuse fullback Kyle Johnson their second fifth-round pick.

The tackles are Todd Steussie and Chris Terry backed by Melvin Tuten, and the guards are Jamar Nesbit and Jeno James backed by Leander Jordan. Jeff Mitchell is the center.

## DEFENSE

The question for Fox and defensive coordinator Jack Del Rio is whether to put Peppers on the right or left side. Mike Rucker had nine sacks from the right side last year and is a solid starter, but he could move to the left to accommodate a more natural place for Peppers. Sean Gilbert will move inside beside Kris Jenkins, with Brentson Buckner pushing for time. The Panthers signed Shane Burton from the Jets to provide experienced depth inside.

Last year's top draft choice, Dan Morgan, moves to middle linebacker, with newcomer Mark Fields anchoring the strong side and third-rounder Will Witherspoon from Georgia pushing Hannibal Navies for the other starting spot. Ex-Ravens backup linebacker Brad Jackson, who arrived with Del Rio, also will get a shot at more playing time. Fields was on the verge of stardom in New Orleans before getting lost in St. Louis, so Del Rio is hopeful of resurrecting his career.

The secondary is in transition because of the departure of starting cornerbacks Doug Evans and Jimmy Hitchcock and a neck injury to cornerback Rashard Anderson that will stall his progression. In Anderson's absence, newcomer Terry Cousin and holdover Reggie Howard are expected to start, although offseason additions DeRon Jenkins and Fred Vinson and holdover

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 1, Lost 15

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 24-13	at Minnesota
09/23	L 16-24	at Atlanta
09/30	L 7-28	Green Bay
10/07	L 14-24	at San Francisco
10/14	L 25-27	New Orleans
10/21	L 14-17	at Washington
10/28	L 12-13	N.Y. Jets
11/04	L 6-23	at Miami
11/11	L 14-48	at St. Louis
11/18	L 22-25	San Francisco
11/25	L 7-10	Atlanta
12/02	L 23-27	at New Orleans
12/09	L 24-25	at Buffalo
12/23	L 32-38	St. Louis
12/30	L 7-30	Arizona
01/06	L 6-38	New England

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Huntley	166	665	4.0	25	2
Biakabutuka	53	230	4.3	27	1
Goings	66	197	3.0	16	0
Weinke	37	128	3.5	23	6
Hoover	17	71	4.2	10	0
Smith	4	43	10.8	39	0
Craig	3	20	6.7	13	0
Hetherington	5	12	2.4	8	0
Lytle	2	8	4.0	4	0
Sauerbrun	1	0	0	0	0

Team	354	1372	3.9	39	9
Opponents	521	2301	4.4	71t	13

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Hayes	52	597	11.5	48	2
Muhammad	50	585	11.7	43	1
Walls	43	452	10.5	25	5
Byrd	37	492	13.3	42	1
Hoover	26	185	7.1	19	0
Hetherington	23	124	5.4	15	0
Huntley	21	101	4.8	23	1
Mangum	15	89	5.9	11	2
Jeffers	14	127	9.1	21	0
Biakabutuka	12	121	10.1	47	0
Smith	10	154	15.4	33	0
Goings	8	39	4.9	11	0
Broughton	2	22	11.0	13	0
Crawford	1	10	10.0	10	0

Team	314	3098	9.9	48	12
Opponents	306	3809	12.4	94t	25

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Weinke	540	293	2931	11	19
Lytle	30	17	133	1	3
Craig	8	4	34	0	0
Huntley	1	0	0	0	0

Team	579	314	3098	12	22
Opponents	510	306	3809	25	24

## SACKS

Rucker 9.0, Buckner 4.5, Slade 2.5, Gilbert 2.0, Jenkins 2.0, Grant 1.0, Howard 1.0, Lucas 1.0, Morgan 1.0, Williams 1.0, Wilson 0.5

Panthers 26.0, Opponents 31.0





The signing of high-priced free agent defensive tackle Sean Gilbert prior to the 1998 season coincided with the beginning of a significant downturn in the fortunes of the Carolina franchise.

Deveron Harper will be in the mix. Vinson is coming off difficult knee problems. Fourth-round pick Dante Wesley will get every chance to play. Fox admits cornerback remains his most troublesome spot. At the safety spots, Mike Minter and Deon Grant are the starters, with Damien Richardson in reserve.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

The Panthers welcome the return of kick-return and cover specialist Michael Bates, who will help exciting Steve Smith on kickoffs. Todd Sauerbrun fulfilled his potential as a booming punter by making the Pro Bowl. John Kasay is an experienced and reliable kicker. ■

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	BALTIMORE.....	1:00
September 15	DETROIT.....	1:00
September 22	at Minnesota.....	1:00
September 29	at Green Bay.....	1:00
October 6	ARIZONA.....	1:00
October 13	at Dallas.....	1:00
October 20	at Atlanta.....	1:00
October 27	TAMPA BAY.....	1:00
November 3	OPEN DATE.....	
November 10	NEW ORLEANS.....	1:00
November 17	at Tampa Bay.....	4:05
November 24	ATLANTA.....	1:00
December 1	at Cleveland.....	1:00
December 8	CINCINNATI.....	1:00
December 15	at Pittsburgh.....	1:00
December 21	CHICAGO.....	1:00
December 29	at New Orleans.....	1:00

All times Eastern

## CAROLINA PANTHERS

John Fox, head coach

Don Breaux, tight ends; Paul Boudreau, offensive line; Jack Del Rio, defensive coordinator; Mike McCoy, offensive assistant; Sam Mills, linebackers; Scott O'Brien, asst. head coach/special teams; Rod Perry, secondary; Alvin Reynolds, defensive assistant; Sal Sunseri, defensive assistant; Darrin Simmons, special teams quality control/asst. strength and conditioning; Jerry Simmons, strength and conditioning; Jim Skipper, running backs; Mike Trgovac, defensive line; Richard Williamson, wide receivers; Dan Henning, offensive coordinator/quarterbacks

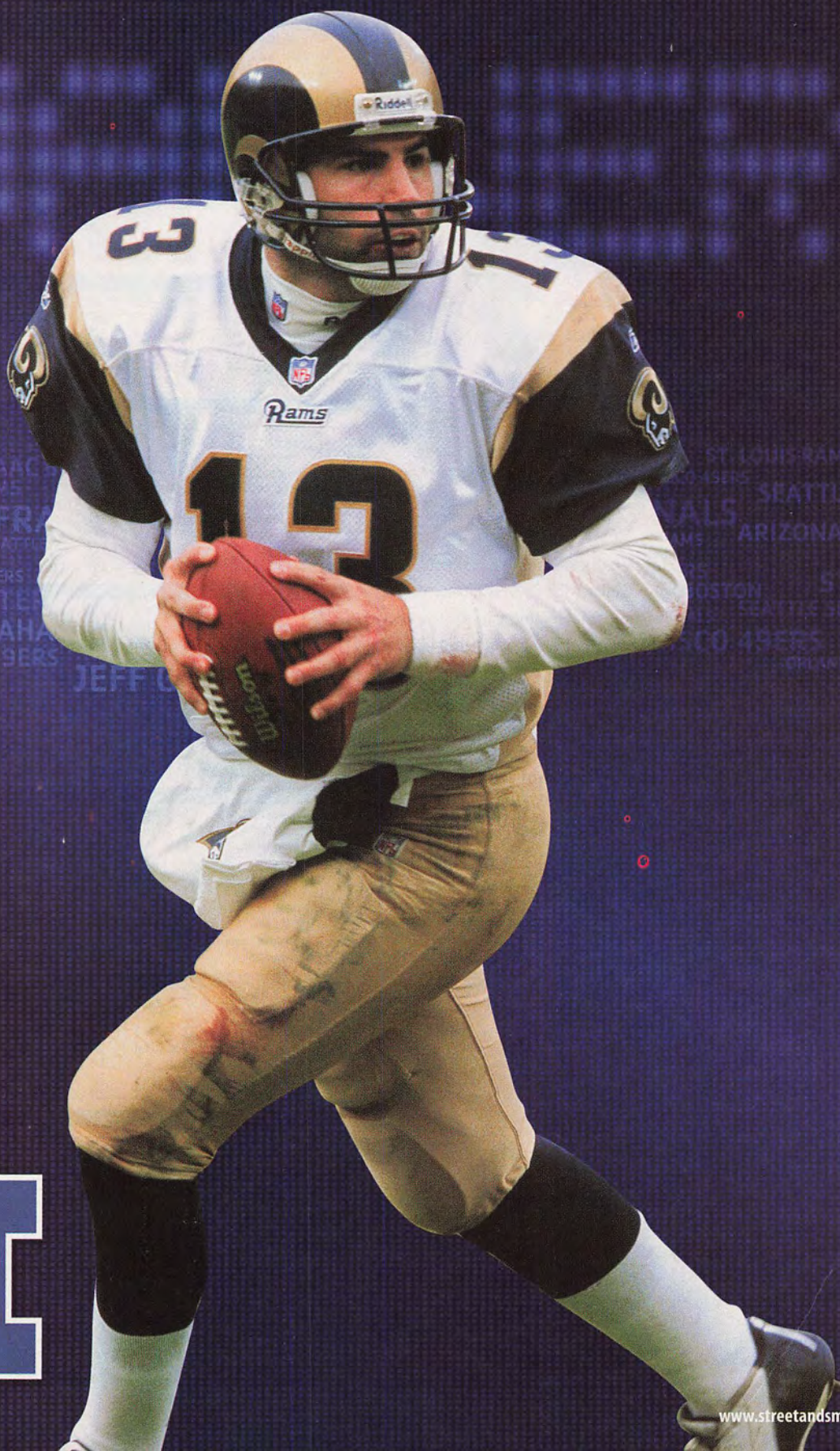
#	QUARTERBACK	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
9	Lytle, Matt	QB	6-4	225	09/04/1975	2 Pittsburgh
16	Peete, Rodney	QB	6-0	225	03/16/1966	12 Southern California
16	Weinke, Chris	QB	6-4	232	07/31/1972	1 Florida State
#	OFFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
65	Donnalley, Kevin	G	6-5	310	06/10/1968	11 North Carolina
78	James, Geno	G	6-3	292	01/12/1977	2 Auburn
76	Jordan, Leander	G	6-3	320	09/15/1977	1 Indiana (PA)
60	Mitchell, Jeff	C	6-4	300	01/29/1974	4 Florida
63	Nesbit, Jamar	G	6-4	330	12/17/1976	3 South Carolina
75	Stuessie, Todd	T	6-6	308	12/01/1970	8 California
70	Terry, Chris	T	6-5	295	08/08/1975	3 Georgia
73	Tuten, Melvin	T	6-7	320	11/11/1971	5 Syracuse
62	Washington, T.J.	T	6-4	335	07/01/1974	0 Virginia Tech
66	Williams, Louis	C	6-4	291	04/11/1979	0 LSU
#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
20	Bates, Michael	RB	5-10	189	12/19/1969	9 Arizona
22	Brown, Dadrion	RB	5-11	209	05/12/1978	0 Syracuse
36	Goings, Nick	RB	6-0	225	01/26/1978	1 Pittsburgh
45	Hoover, Brad	RB	6-2	225	11/11/1976	2 Western Carolina
33	Montgomery, Joe	RB	5-10	230	06/08/1976	2 Ohio State
26	Smith, Lamar	RB	5-11	224	11/29/1970	8 Houston
#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
88	Baker, Tim	WR	6-4	208	10/23/1977	1 Texas Tech
82	Byrd, Isaac	WR	6-1	188	11/16/1974	5 Kansas
84	Crawford, Casey	TE	6-6	255	08/01/1977	2 Virginia
88	Hankton, Karl	WR	6-2	202	07/24/1970	3 Trinity (IL)
83	Jeffers, Patrick	WR	6-3	218	02/02/1973	5 Virginia
86	Mangum, Kris	TE	6-4	249	08/15/1973	5 Mississippi
87	Muhammad, Muhsin	WR	6-2	217	05/05/1973	6 Michigan State
89	Smith, Steve	WR	5-9	179	05/12/1979	1 Utah
15	Turner, Jim	WR	6-4	212	11/13/1975	0 Syracuse
85	Walls, Wesley	TE	6-5	250	02/26/1966	12 Mississippi
#	DEFENSIVE LINE	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
99	Buckner, Brentson	DT	6-2	305	09/30/1971	8 Clemson
98	Burton, Shane	DT	6-6	312	01/18/1974	6 Tennessee
94	Gilbert, Sean	DT	6-5	318	04/10/1970	9 Pittsburgh
77	Jenkins, Kris	DT	6-4	315	08/03/1979	1 Maryland
91	Killings, Cedric	DT	6-2	290	12/14/1977	2 Carson-Newman
71	Lucas, Albert	DT	6-1	294	09/01/1978	2 Troy State
98	Milem, John	DE	6-7	290	06/09/1975	2 Lenoir-Rhyne
97	Peter, Jason	DE	6-4	295	09/13/1974	4 Nebraska
93	Rucker, Mike	DE	6-5	258	02/28/1975	3 Nebraska
96	Williams, Jay	DE	6-3	280	10/13/1971	7 Wake Forest
92	Wilson, Gillis	DE	6-2	282	10/15/1977	1 Southern University
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
46	Anderson, Rashard	CB	6-2	204	06/14/1977	2 Jackson State
40	Cooper, Jarrod	S	6-0	210	03/31/1978	1 Kansas State
21	Cousin, Terry	CB	5-9	181	03/11/1975	5 South Carolina
27	Grant, Deon	S	6-2	207	03/14/1979	1 Tennessee
28	Harper, Deveron	CB	5-11	187	11/15/1977	2 Notre Dame
23	Howard, Reggie	CB	6-0	190	05/17/1977	2 Memphis
25	Jenkins, DeRon	CB	5-11	192	11/14/1973	6 Tennessee
30	Minter, Mike	S	5-10	188	01/15/1974	5 Nebraska
39	Richardson, Damien	S	6-1	210	04/03/1976	4 Arizona State
21	Vinson, Fred	CB	5-11	180	04/02/1977	1 Vanderbilt
#	LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
59	Hawkes, Michael	LB	6-0	242	04/11/1977	1 Virginia Tech
50	Jackson, Brad	LB	6-0	230	01/11/1975	3 Cincinnati
56	Kyle, Jason	LB	6-3	242	05/12/1972	5 Arizona State
52	Minor, Kory	LB	6-1	247	12/14/1976	2 Notre Dame
55	Morgan, Dan	LB	6-2	233	12/19/1978	1 Miami (FL)
53	Naves, Hannibal	LB	6-2	240	07/19/1977	3 Colorado
57	Towns, Lester	LB	6-1	252	08/28/1977	2 Washington
#	KICKERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Kasay, John	K	5-10	198	10/27/1969	10 Georgia
10	Sauerbrun, Todd	P	5-10	211	01/04/1973	7 West Virginia

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	2	Peppers, Julius	DE	6-6	283	01/18/1980	North Carolina
2	2	Foster, DeShaun	RB	6-0	222	01/10/1980	UCLA
3	8	Witherspoon, Will	LB	6-1	234	08/19/1980	Georgia
4	2	Wesley, Dante	CB	6-1	211	04/05/1979	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
5	2	Fasani, Randy	QB	6-3	234	09/18/1978	Stanford
5	10	Johnson, Kyle	RB	6-1	242	12/15/1978	Syracuse
6	2	Heinrich, Keith	TE	6-5	255	03/19/1979	Sam Houston State
7	2	Campion, Pete	G	6-4	307	12/03/1979	North Dakota State
7	47	Franklin, Brad	CB	6-1	190	12/22/1979	Louisiana-Lafayette



# NFC WEST





# Rams, 49ers still well ahead of the rest in division of misfit toys.

**T**his is the NFC Division made up of misfits, castoffs and the NFC champion two of the last three years. The St. Louis Rams and Arizona Cardinals still sound all mixed up, especially to Cardinals owner Bill Bidwill, who used to play in St. Louis.

At least the Rams remain on the west side of the Mississippi River.

The San Francisco 49ers had to stay with the Rams in deference to their former California rivalry, although nobody knows whether anyone in Los Angeles cares anymore. The Seattle Seahawks, the NFL's most isolated franchise, got kicked out of the AFC and had no place else to go.

It all makes for interesting theater and probably another division win for the Rams.

## St. Louis Rams

Until derailed by the New England Patriots in the Super Bowl, the Rams were everybody's favorite to win nearly every game they entered. They still believe the only team they really have to fear is the Rams themselves, because nobody else has figured out a reliable way to stop the MVP combination of quarterback Kurt Warner and running back Marshall Faulk.

Coach Mike Martz doesn't know which player is more valuable and sometimes doesn't know which player to trust more with the football. Once again, teams will have to score a lot to beat them, and what makes them more dangerous is defensive coordinator Lovie Smith has developed a unit that more than holds its own.

## San Francisco 49ers

Coach Steve Mariucci is staying by the bay after flirting with Notre Dame and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Receiver Terrell Owens is staying as well. The two have promised to try to get along better, but last season's skirmishes didn't seem to prevent the 49ers from winning 12 games. In fact,

most people believed the 49ers were one year ahead of projections.

If the 49ers are indeed returning to Super Bowl form faster than expected, the Rams are in for a handful. First, however, quarterback Jeff Garcia will have to break out of his 0-5 record as a starter against the Rams. Help from an improving, young defense is a necessity.

## Seattle Seahawks

The NFC is familiar territory for both coach Mike Holmgren and quarterback Trent Dilfer, although Holmgren has enjoyed more success here than Dilfer has. The Seahawks remain an enigmatic team. They barely missed the playoffs with their 9-7 record a year ago despite lackluster performances from both the offense (25th) and defense (20th). No other team with a winning record ranked quite so low on both sides of the ball.

It took Holmgren five seasons in Green Bay, including three straight years of 9-7, before making the Super Bowl, so Seattle fans can take heart. He is counting heavily on young talent to come through, but the most important piece of the plan remains a quarterback who just might be finding his prime at age 30.

## Arizona Cardinals

No NFL team had to uproot more traditional rivalries than Bidwill's Cardinals in this realignment. From Chicago to St. Louis to Arizona, the Cardinals maintained alliances with the Eagles, Redskins and Giants that are suddenly dismissed.

It is Bidwill's price for gravitating west, where he has yet to find anything resembling promised riches on or off the field. For the Cardinals to find success in their new division, coach Dave McGinnis must continue to rebuild a defense that overachieved last year and appears another year away from becoming consistently competitive.



Previews by Don Pierson

## TOP PLAYERS

### OFFENSE:

**Marshall Faulk, RB**  
St. Louis Rams

### DEFENSE:

**Bryant Young, DT**  
San Francisco 49ers

### NEWCOMER:

**Wendell Bryant, DT**  
Arizona Cardinals





# St. Louis Rams

N F C W E S T

## With all their talent, Rams have no choice but to be a high-expectation juggernaut.

**F**ull speed ahead for Mike Martz, who has no rear-view mirror or brakes on his shiny Ram juggernaut. He's 0-1 in Super Bowls as a head coach, 1-0 as an offensive coordinator. He expects more chances to come his way, such as this year. There is little reason to doubt this talented outfit whose skill players remain the envy of the league. If the Rams don't reach their third Super Bowl in four years, there will be much gnashing of teeth.

If quarterback Kurt Warner and running back Marshall Faulk continue on their current pace of

handing off MVP trophies, this year is Faulk's turn. That would be fitting because Martz was criticized in the last Super Bowl for failing to hand off enough times to his superstar. Martz broke away from his passing fancies long enough in the NFC title game to hand off to his running back seven straight times, which subdued the Eagles but not enough to convince the coach to do it again the following week.

### OFFENSE

When you have Warner, it's hard to relegate him to handoffs. Hopefully, the most accurate passer in the league will be fully recovered from a sore throwing thumb that bothered him for most of last year, including the Super Bowl. Warner took only a few plays off and Martz insisted that backup Jamie Martin could run his offense without missing a beat. The Rams said the same thing about Warner when Trent Green got hurt three years ago.

Receiver Isaac Bruce injured his ribs early in the Super Bowl loss but gutted it out and returns intact for his ninth season as an elite performer. Overshadowed at times by louder players like Randy Moss or Terrell Owens, Bruce remains near the very top of every defensive back's list of toughest men to cover. No star receiver benefits as much from a complementary cast that starts with Torry Holt, a star in his own right. Martz eased the loss of third receiver Az-Zahir Hakim to Detroit by re-signing steady Ricky Proehl and

*Quarterback Kurt Warner keeps everyone happy in the St. Louis offense. The Rams were the only team in the league to have six players with at least 38 receptions last year.*

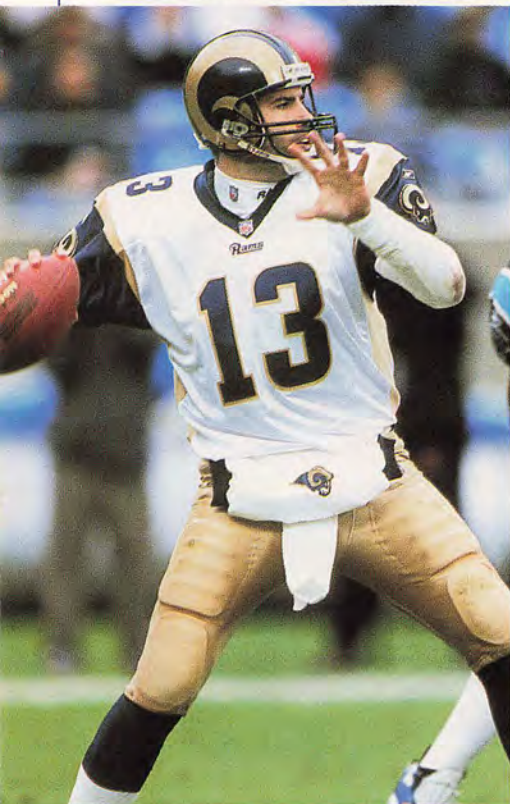


*Big-play cornerback Dre' Bly turned in a career-high six interceptions last season, returning two for touchdowns, including one 93-yard return at Detroit on October 8.*

trading for speedy little Terrence Wilkins from Indianapolis. He also drafted Heisman Trophy quarterback Eric Crouch from Nebraska and is intent on turning him into a receiver. Tight end Ernie Conwell is also a threat, backed by promising Brandon Manumaleuna.

The last trade with the Colts turned out fine when Faulk arrived and emerged as no less than the best player in football. As long as he's around, the Rams will flourish because nobody runs and catches better than he does, maybe in the history of the league. Only 29, Faulk remains in his prime, much to the chagrin of the chasers. Backup Trung Canidate can only hope to continue learning at the feet of the master. Martz couldn't resist drafting another speed back in North Dakota State's Lamar Gordon. James Hodgins is a little-used fullback, as the Rams favor three receivers.

On the offensive line, the Rams lost two right tackle candidates in Ryan Tucker (Cleveland) and Rod Jones (Washington), so their primary concern on offense is the development of third-year prospect John St. Clair, a former center. Otherwise, the line of left tackle Orlando Pace, left guard Tom Nuten, center Andy McCollum



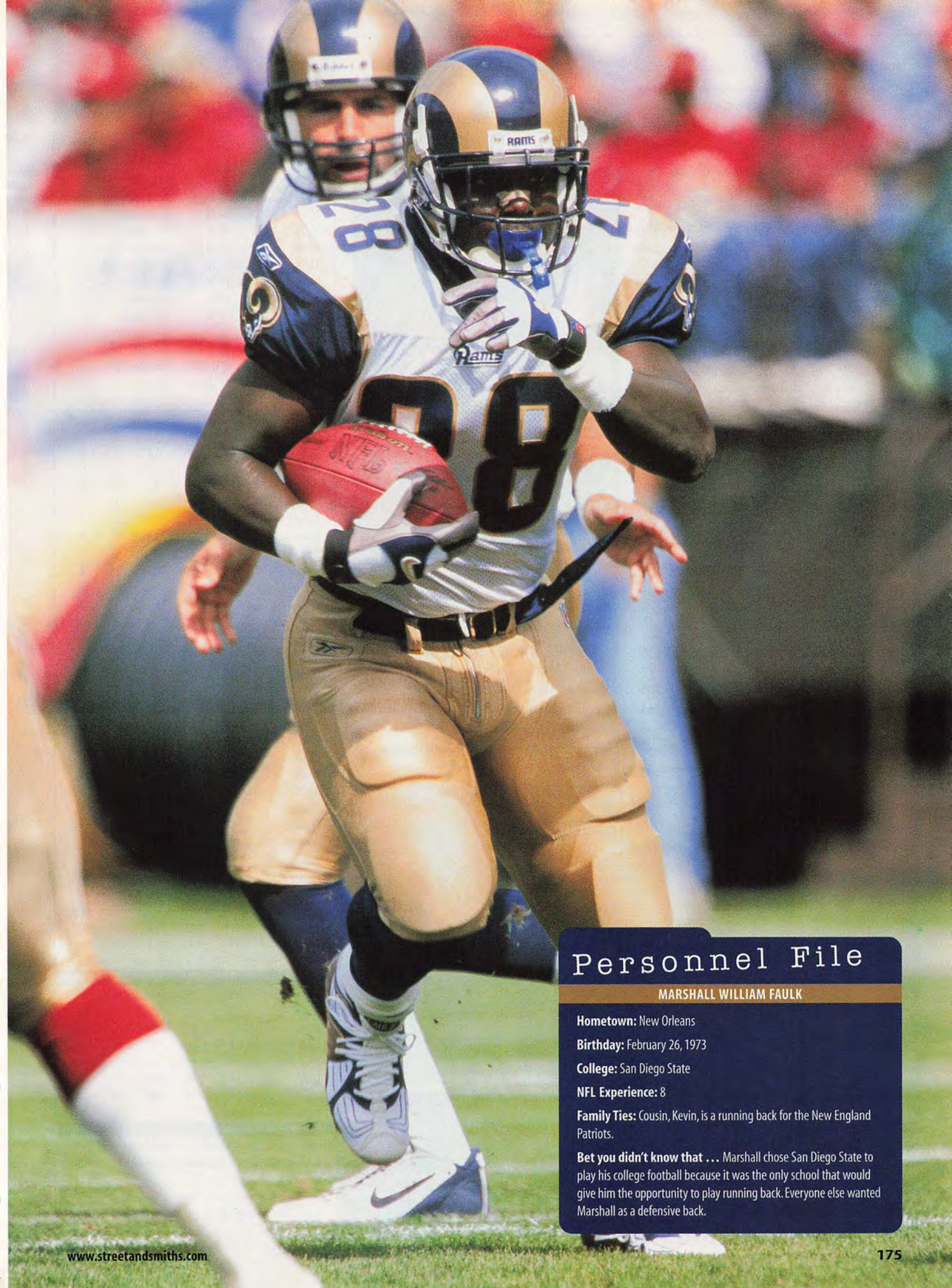
## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	418.1	1	TOTAL DEFENSE	279.4	3
RUSHING	126.7	5	AGAINST RUSH	86.6	3
PASSING	291.4	1	AGAINST PASS	192.9	10
SCORING	503	1	PTS. ALLOWED	273	7
PUNT RETURNS	9.3	19	INTERCEPTIONS	21	8
KICK RETURNS	20.4	22	SACKS	47	7
RED ZONE TO %	63.6	1	TURNOVER DIFF.	-10	26 <sup>T</sup>



LEFT TO RIGHT: STEVE BEYER, SPORTSCHROME U.S.A.; FACING PAGE: TOMASSO DEROSA





## Personnel File

MARSHALL WILLIAM FAULK

**Hometown:** New Orleans

**Birthday:** February 26, 1973

**College:** San Diego State

**NFL Experience:** 8

**Family Ties:** Cousin, Kevin, is a running back for the New England Patriots.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Marshall chose San Diego State to play his college football because it was the only school that would give him the opportunity to play running back. Everyone else wanted Marshall as a defensive back.



and right guard Adam Timmerman remains intact and comfortable in the knowledge that few quarterbacks get rid of the ball faster or show more poise in the pocket than the fearless Warner.

## DEFENSE

The Rams dramatically altered their defense last year under new coordinator Lovie Smith and received outstanding results. All those who know the Rams led the NFC in defense, raise your hand.

This year there is continued change, but on a lesser scale. They let their leading tackler, middle linebacker London Fletcher, get away to Buffalo in free agency. Although Fletcher was a vocal team leader and a fast, effective performer, the Rams simply didn't agree with his salary demands and are confident in plugging in Jamie Duncan from the Bucs, where he was once coached by Smith.

The development of last year's first-round defensive tackles, Damione Lewis and Ryan Pickett, is the key to this year's defense. Lewis is coming off injury and Pickett is maturing. They will be complemented by reliable Jeff Zgonina and Brian Young. Pass rusher Leonard Little and relentless Grant Wistrom give the Rams an outstanding pair of ends. Backup Sean Moran left, meaning Lewis might have to fill in at end.

At linebacker, Duncan will be flanked by Don Davis and either second-year man Tommy Polley or top draft choice Robert Thomas of UCLA. Backups Mark Fields and Brian Allen also departed.

The addition last year of cornerback Aeneas Williams transformed the defense. He's back and still hungry for a Super Bowl ring at age 34.



In three seasons with the Rams, wide receiver Torrey Holt has 3,786 receiving yards and 19 touchdowns.

Dre' Bly will continue to push Dexter McCleon for a starting spot and Jerametrius Butler is a promising backup. Little speedster Travis Fisher, the second-round pick, also will help.

Second-year strong safety Adam Archuleta was outstanding as a rookie, and free safety Kim Herring returns, with Rich Coady backing up both spots.

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 14, Lost 2

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 20-17	at Philadelphia
09/23	W 30-26	at San Francisco
09/30	W 42-10	Miami
10/08	W 35-0	at Detroit
10/14	W 15-14	N.Y. Giants
10/21	W 34-14	at N.Y. Jets
10/28	L 31-34	New Orleans
11/11	W 48-14	Carolina
11/18	W 24-17	at New England
11/26	L 17-24	Tampa Bay
12/02	W 35-6	at Atlanta
12/09	W 27-14	San Francisco
12/17	W 34-21	at New Orleans
12/23	W 38-32	at Carolina
12/30	W 42-17	Indianapolis
01/06	W 31-13	Atlanta

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Faulk	260	1382	5.3	71	12
Canidate	78	441	5.7	45	6
Warner	28	60	2.1	23	0
Hakim	11	50	4.5	12	0
Holcombe	13	42	3.2	11	1
Conwell	7	28	4.0	13	1
Bruce	4	23	5.8	10	0
Proehl	1	5	5.0	5	0
Hodgins	2	5	2.5	5	0
Watson	1	0	0	0	0
Baker	1	0	0	0	0
Holt	2	0	0	2	0

Team	416	2027	4.9	71t	20
Opponents	366	1374	3.8	30	11

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Faulk	83	765	9.2	65	9
Holt	81	1363	16.8	51	7
Bruce	64	1106	17.3	51	6
Proehl	40	563	14.1	37	5
Hakim	39	374	9.6	33	3
Conwell	38	431	11.3	47	4
Canidate	17	154	9.1	29	0
Robinson	11	108	9.8	26	1
Hodgins	4	24	6.0	11	1
Holcombe	1	14	14.0	14	0
Manumaleuna	1	1	1.0	1	1

Team	379	4903	12.9	65t	37
Opponents	314	3348	10.7	49t	16

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Warner	546	375	4830	36	65
Hakim	1	1	51	1	51
Martin	3	3	22	0	10
Faulk	1	0	0	0	0

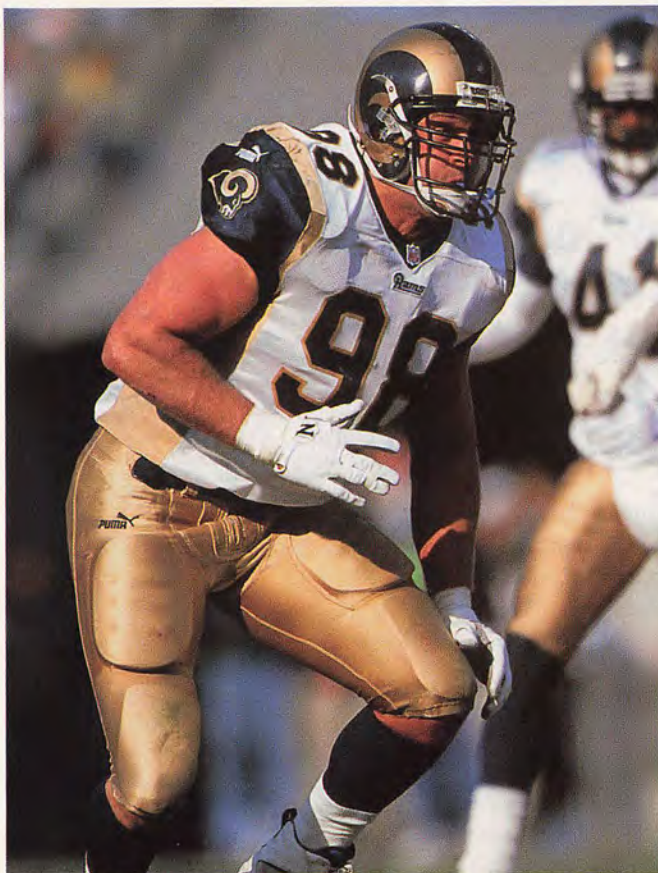
Team	551	379	4903	37	22
Opponents	541	314	3348	16	21

## SACKS

Little 14.5, Wistrom 9.0, Young 6.5, Fletcher 4.5, Archuleta 3.0, Jackson 3.0, Ahanotu 2.0, Moran 2.0, Coady 1.0, McCleon 1.0, Pickett 0.5

Rams 47.0, Opponents 40





Defensive end Grant Wistrom seemingly did it all on defense for the Rams in his fourth season, posting career highs in tackles with 96, and adding nine sacks, 19 QB pressures and two interceptions.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

The acquisition of booming punter/kickoff specialist Mitch Berger from Minnesota will bolster the special teams, and Wilkins will replace Candidate on kick returns and Hakim on punt returns. Bly is available on punt returns. Jeff Wilkins returns as the luckiest field goal kicker in the NFL—working for an offense that routinely averages more than 30 points a game.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Denver	4:15
September 15	NY GIANTS	4:05
September 23	at Tampa Bay	9:00
September 29	DALLAS	1:00
October 6	at San Francisco	4:15
October 13	OAKLAND	4:15
October 20	SEATTLE	1:00
October 27	OPEN DATE	
November 3	at Arizona	4:15
November 10	SAN DIEGO	1:00
November 18	CHICAGO	9:00
November 24	at Washington	4:15
December 1	at Philadelphia	4:15
December 8	at Kansas City	1:00
December 15	ARIZONA	8:30
December 22	at Seattle	4:05
December 30	SAN FRANCISCO	9:00

All times Eastern

## ST. LOUIS RAMS

Mike Martz, head coach

Carlos Mainord, secondary; Chris Clausen, strength and conditioning coordinator; Henry Ellard, offensive assistant; Mike Haluchak, linebackers; Jim Hanifan, offensive line; Lovie Smith, defensive coordinator; Bobby Jackson, associate head coach/running backs/offensive coordinator; Dana LeDuc, strength and conditioning; John Matsko, assistant head coach/offensive line; Wilbert Montgomery, tight ends; John Ramsdell, quarterbacks; Matt Sheldon, defensive assistant/quality control; Ken Zampese, wide receivers; Bill Kollar, defensive line

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Bulger, Marc	QB	6-3	215	04/05/1977	0	West Virginia
12	Martin, Jamie	QB	6-2	205	02/08/1970	4	Weber State
13	Warner, Kurt	QB	6-2	220	06/22/1971	4	Northern Iowa

#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
65	Garcia, Frank	C	6-2	302	01/28/1972	7	Washington
67	McCollum, Andy	C	6-4	295	06/02/1970	7	Toledo
71	Noa, Kaulana	T	6-3	307	12/29/1976	0	Hawaii
61	Nutten, Tom	G	6-5	304	06/08/1971	5	Western Michigan
76	Pace, Orlando	T	6-7	325	11/04/1975	5	Ohio State
73	Spikes, Cameron	G	6-2	323	11/06/1976	3	Texas A&M
70	St. Clair, John	T	6-4	315	07/15/1977	0	Virginia
62	Timmerman, Adam	G	6-4	300	08/14/1971	7	South Dakota State

#	RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
47	Bowie, Larry	RB	6-0	249	03/21/1973	4	Georgia
24	Canidate, Trung	RB	5-11	205	03/03/1977	2	Arizona
28	Faulk, Marshall	RB	5-10	211	02/26/1973	8	San Diego State
42	Hodgins, James	RB	6-1	270	04/30/1977	3	San Jose State
33	Watson, Justin	RB	6-0	230	01/07/1975	3	San Diego State

#	RECEIVERS	HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	
80	Bruce, Isaac	WR	6-0	188	11/10/1972	8	Memphis
84	Conwell, Ernie	TE	6-2	265	08/17/1972	6	Washington
89	Griffin, Damon	WR	5-9	186	06/14/1976	2	Oregon
88	Holt, Torry	WR	6-0	190	06/05/1976	3	North Carolina State
86	Manumaleuna, B.	TE	6-2	288	01/04/1980	1	Arizona
83	Murphy, Yo	WR	5-10	187	05/11/1971	2	Idaho
87	Proehl, Ricky	WR	6-0	190	03/07/1968	12	Wake Forest
80	Wilkins, Terrence	WR	5-8	178	07/29/1975	3	Virginia

#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
93	Brown, Jonathan	DE	6-4	265	11/28/1975	2	Tennessee
97	Jackson, Tyoka	DT	6-2	280	11/22/1971	7	Penn State
92	Lewis, Damione	DT	6-2	301	03/01/1978	1	Miami (FL)
91	Little, Leonard	DE	6-3	257	10/19/1974	4	Tennessee
79	Pickett, Ryan	DT	6-2	310	10/08/1979	1	Ohio State
98	Wistrom, Grant	DE	6-4	272	07/03/1976	4	Nebraska
66	Young, Brian	DE	6-2	290	07/08/1977	2	UTEP
90	Zgonina, Jeff	DT	6-2	305	05/24/1970	9	Purdue

#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
31	Archuleta, Adam	S	6-0	215	11/27/1976	1	Arizona State
32	Bly, Dre'	CB	5-9	190	05/22/1977	3	North Carolina
23	Butler, Jerametrious	CB	5-10	181	11/28/1978	1	Kansas State
38	Coady, Rich	S	6-0	203	01/26/1976	3	Texas A&M
30	Gary, Willie	S	5-10	195	11/01/1978	1	Kentucky
20	Herring, Kim	S	6-0	200	09/10/1975	5	Penn State
21	McCleon, Dexter	CB	5-10	195	10/09/1973	5	Clemson
41	Sorensen, Nick	S	6-2	205	07/31/1978	1	Virginia Tech
35	Williams, Aeneas	CB	5-11	200	01/29/1968	11	Southern University

#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
56	Cohen, Dustin	LB	6-3	236	12/22/1976	1	Miami (OH)
58	Davis, Don	LB	6-1	234	12/17/1972	6	Kansas
59	Duncan, Jamie	LB	6-0	242	07/20/1975	4	Vanderbilt
52	Polley, Tommy	LB	6-3	240	01/11/1978	1	Florida State

#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
17	Berger, Mitch	P	6-4	228	06/24/1972	7	Colorado
14	Wilkins, Jeff	K	6-2	205	04/19/1972	8	Youngstown State

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	31	Thomas, Robert	LB	6-0	233	07/17/1980	UCLA
2	32	Fisher, Travis	CB	5-9	187	09/12/1979	UCF
3	19	Gordon, Lamar	RB	6-0	211	01/07/1980	North Dakota State
3	30	Crouch, Eric	RB	5-11	193	11/16/1978	Nebraska
4	32	Scott, Travis	G	6-6	311	08/09/1979	Arizona State
5	32	Bullard, Courtland	LB	6-3	234	08/02/1978	Ohio State
6	33	Bellisari, Steve	QB	6-1	222	04/21/1980	Ohio State
7	32	Massey, Chris	C	5-11	233	08/21/1979	Marshall



## Suddenly, the 49ers are thinking Super Bowl again, but they'll need to keep Owens motivated.

It turns out the salary-cap roadblock the 49ers encountered was only a minor detour. They're back before anyone noticed they were gone. Consecutive losing seasons were wiped out by last year's surprising 12-4 rebound. Suddenly, expectations are back to normal—Super Bowl or bust.

Although they have yet to figure

out the Rams, the 49ers appear ready to challenge for an NFC title. They replaced two departed starters in free agency and return with everybody else from a squad that is young and improving.

The top returnee is coach Steve Mariucci, after a couple of false starts. Mariucci flirted with Notre Dame and with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers before insisting that his heart is in San Francisco. Whether a long-term future contract follows remains a matter of conjecture. The 49ers believe foremost in their organization. Whether Eddie DeBartolo or sister Denise owns it, whether Bill Walsh or Walsh protege Terry Donahue runs it, the organization is king. The coach is an employee. If Mariucci can live with that, so be it.

In a rather strange offseason incident, Mariucci was dispatched to Atlanta to seek out his mercenary receiver, Terrell Owens, and try to smooth over a series of miscommunications that had the two men at odds. The two promised to get along, then Owens was off to play minor league basketball, a curious way to display his loyalty. The 49ers could take heart in the fact that Mariucci didn't inquire about the Falcons' well-advertised general manager job while on the road.

What has bothered Owens is the tiresome perception that he is not respected. Some of his teammates, as well as Mariucci himself, would argue there are two sides to that story.

Nevertheless, the 49ers must learn to live with a recalcitrant superstar or find a way to win without him.

### OFFENSE

Quarterback Jeff Garcia would prefer the former, considering that Owens

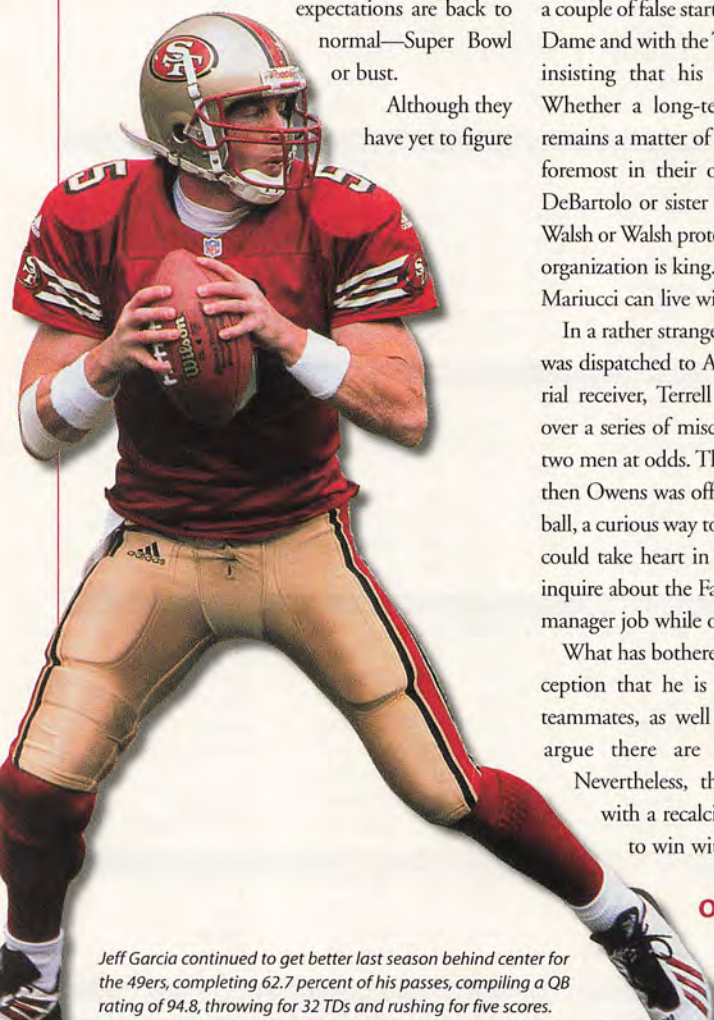


Opinionated 49er receiver Terrell Owens backed up his talk last season with 93 receptions and a 15.2-yard average.

was the recipient of half of his 32 touchdown passes last season. What Mariucci would like to develop is better complementary receivers to both take pressure off and put pressure on Owens to perform even better. J.J. Stokes and Tai Streets have come up short and, although the 49ers seemed to get along just fine without departed legend Jerry Rice, they didn't really replace him. Tight end Eric Johnson was outstanding as a rookie and could develop into the alternate threat the team needs.

Re-signing the remarkable Garrison Hearst was the first order of offseason business. After a sensational comeback season of 1,206 yards, Hearst was rewarded with a contract extension and \$3 million bonus that nobody deserved more. The 49ers intend to work second-year find Kevan Barlow more into the running rotation, but Hearst remains the main man. Re-signing outstanding fullback Fred Beasley also underscored a commitment to the running game, which was No. 1 in the NFC despite the 49ers' reputation for passing.

At 32, Garcia is enjoying his professional prime time and is eager to forget less-than-stellar performances against the Rams and against the Packers in the playoffs. Young Tim Rattay is the



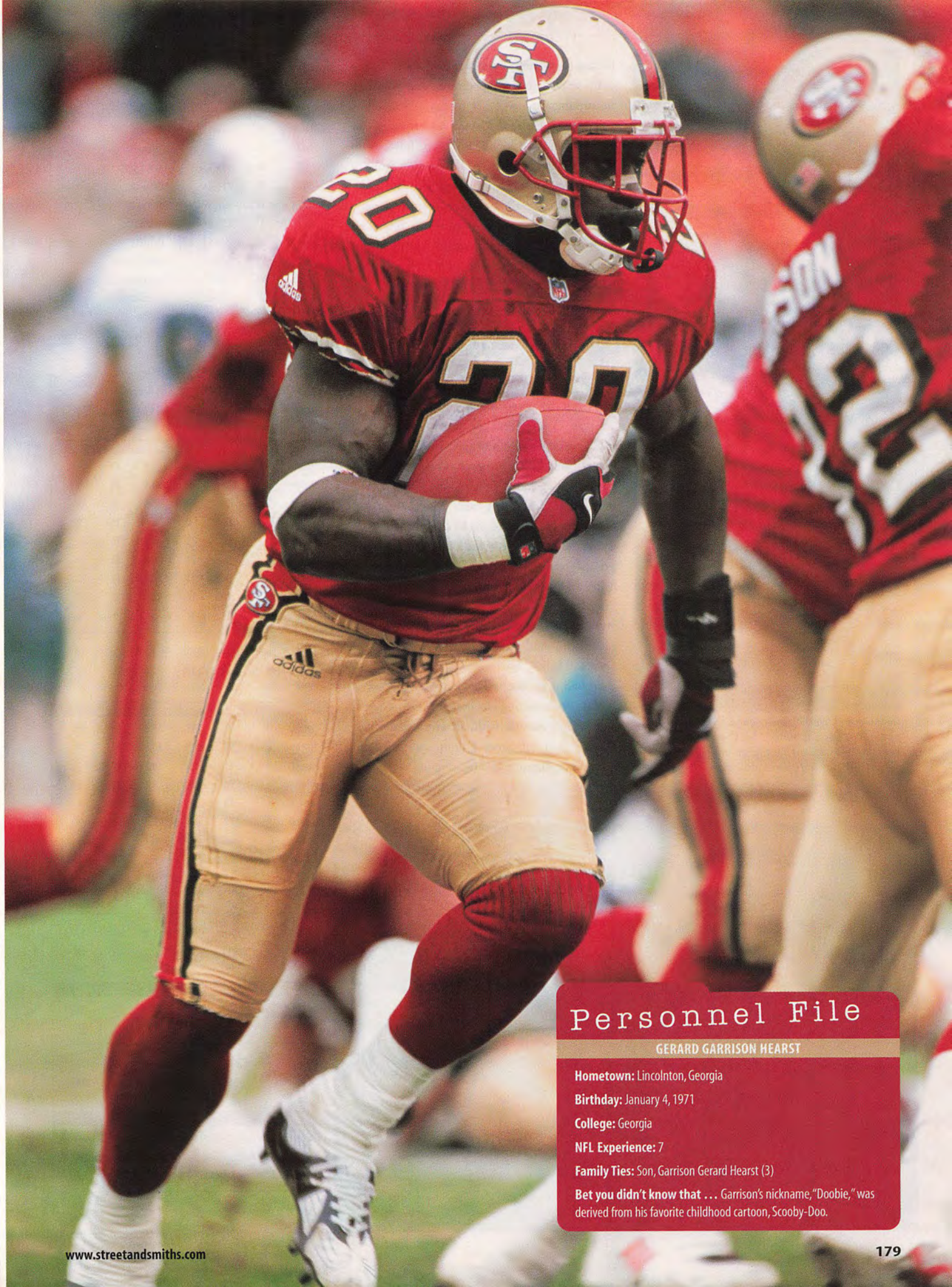
Jeff Garcia continued to get better last season behind center for the 49ers, completing 62.7 percent of his passes, compiling a QB rating of 94.8, throwing for 32 TDs and rushing for five scores.

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	355.6	4	TOTAL DEFENSE	309.6	13
RUSHING	140.3	2	AGAINST RUSH	98.2	9
PASSING	215.3	14	AGAINST PASS	211.4	19
SCORING	409	3	PTS. ALLOWED	282	9
PUNT RETURNS	6.6	31	INTERCEPTIONS	24	6
KICK RETURNS	21.9	13	SACKS	32	27
RED ZONE TD %	63.5	2	TURNOVER DIFF.	+15	3







## Personnel File

GERARD GARRISON HEARST

**Hometown:** Lincolnton, Georgia

**Birthday:** January 4, 1971

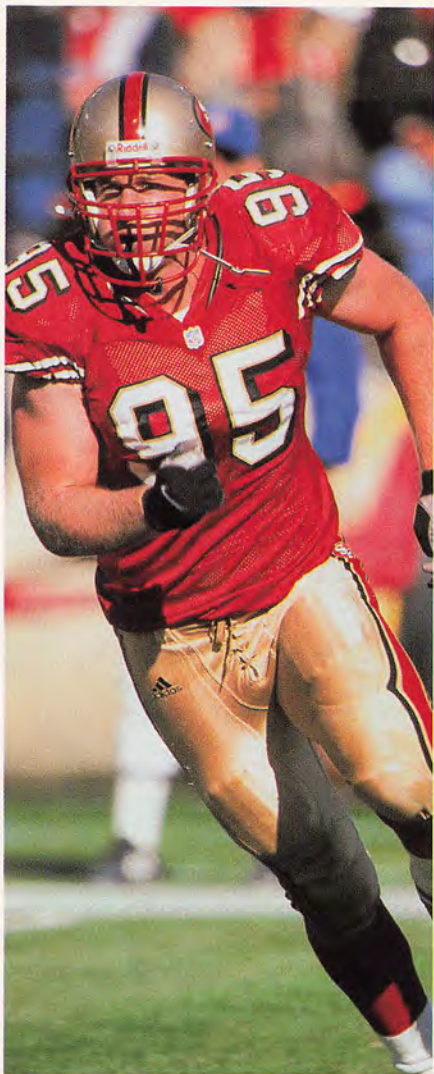
**College:** Georgia

**NFL Experience:** 7

**Family Ties:** Son, Garrison Gerard Hearst (3)

**Bet you didn't know that ...** Garrison's nickname, "Doobie," was derived from his favorite childhood cartoon, Scooby-Doo.





Defensive end John Engelberger, a second-round draft pick in 2000 who has started 27 of 31 games, has helped boost the 49ers against the run. San Francisco finished fourth in NFC rushing defense last season.

backup, but Garcia has not missed a start in two years despite his frail appearance and penchant for running.

The 49ers replaced 39-year-old left guard Ray Brown, who made his first Pro Bowl, with younger, bigger former Pro Bowler Ron Stone of the Giants, a move that strengthens the front. The re-signing of free-agent center Jeremy Newberry was also a priority of the offseason. They are joined by right guard Dave Fiore and tackles Derrick Deese and Scott Gragg, backed by Matt Willig and Ben Lynch.

## DEFENSE

The young defense, most of it assembled in the last two seasons, pitched three shutouts in its last six games and is turning coordinator Jim Mora Jr. into a hot prospect himself.

Bryant Young remains the quiet star and steadying influence of the unit. An All-Pro tackle, Young could be called upon to provide more of a presence at end if others don't step up. The addition of free agent Sean Moran from St. Louis should enable Young to concentrate inside where he is best. Rookie end Andre Carter led the team in sacks and shows promise of being an outstanding pro. Third-year end John Engelberger is still developing. Inside, Dana Stubblefield's return to the fold proved beneficial. Fifth-round tackle Josh Shaw of Michigan State will help.

Second-year linebacker Jamie Winborn is pushing for a starting job alongside Derek Smith and Julian Peterson, with last year's starter, Jeff Ulbrich, and third-round draft choice Saleem Rasheed of Alabama also figuring in.

## PROJECTED STARTERS

Bronson FS X		Parrish SS X		X KR Sutherland	
Winborn OLB X		Smith MLB X		X PR Sutherland	
Webster CB X		Carter RE X		Stubblefield RT X	
Owens WR ○		Deese LT ○		Stone LG ○	
K Chandler		Newberry C □		Fiore RG ○	
P Baker		Gragg RT ○		Johnson TE ○	
Beasley FB ○		Garcia QB ○		Streets WR ○	
Hearst RB ○		49ERS			

49ERS

## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 12, Lost 4

DATE	SCORE	
09/09	W 16-13	Atlanta
09/23	L 26-30	St. Louis
10/01	W 19-17	at N.Y. Jets
10/07	W 24-14	Carolina
10/14	W 37-31	at Atlanta
10/28	L 31-37	at Chicago
11/04	W 21-13	Detroit
11/11	W 28-27	New Orleans
11/18	W 25-22	at Carolina
11/25	W 40-21	at Indianapolis
12/02	W 35-0	Buffalo
12/09	L 14-27	at St. Louis
12/16	W 21-0	Miami
12/22	W 13-3	Philadelphia
12/30	L 21-27	at Dallas
01/06	W 38-0	at New Orleans

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Hearst	252	1206	4.8	43	4
Barlow	125	512	4.1	25	4
Garcia	72	254	3.5	25	5
Jackson	22	138	6.3	15	1
Beasley	23	73	3.2	16	1
Smith	4	27	6.8	13	1
Owens	4	21	5.3	12	0
Sutherland	1	16	16.0	16	0
Baker	1	0	0	0	0

Team	509	2244	4.4	43t	16
Opponents	389	1571	4.0	39	9

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Owens	93	1412	15.2	60	16
Stokes	54	585	10.8	47	7
Hearst	41	347	8.5	60	1
Johnson	40	362	9.1	24	3
Streets	28	345	12.3	52	1
Barlow	22	247	11.2	61	1
Beasley	16	99	6.2	15	0
T. Jackson	12	91	7.6	14	2
Swift	11	66	6.0	13	1
Sutherland	1	5	5.0	5	0

Team	318	3559	11.2	61t	32
Opponents	332	3603	10.9	63	18

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Garcia	504	316	3538	32	12
Rattay	2	2	21	0	0

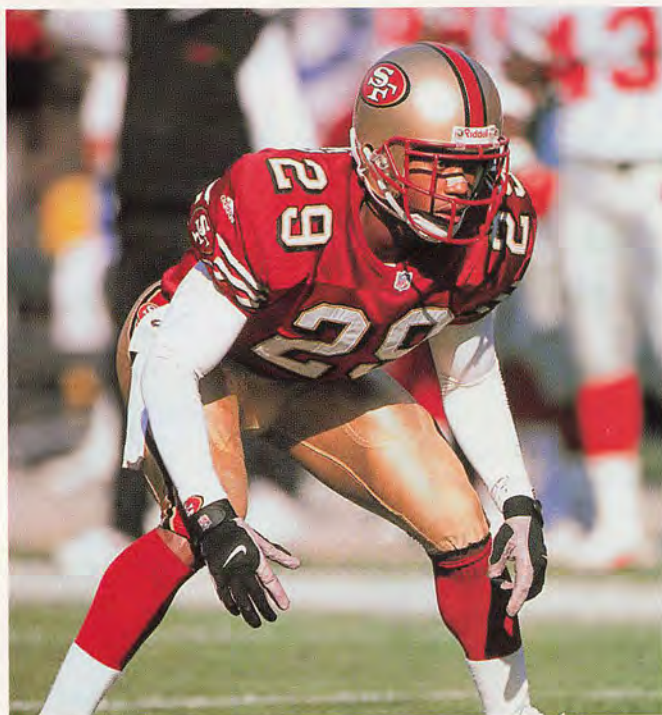
Team	506	318	3559	32	12
Opponents	567	332	3603	18	24

## SACKS

Carter 6.5, Engelberger 4.0, Stubblefield 4.0, Young 3.5, Peterson 3.0, Smith 3.0, Okefor 2.5, Heard 1.0, McGrew 1.0, Schulters 1.0, Setzer 1.0, Ulbrich 0.5, Webster 0.5, Winborn 0.5

49ers 32.0, Opponents 26.0





Cornerback Ahmed Plummer's seven interceptions were fourth in the NFC last season.

The loss of hard-hitting strong safety Lance Schulters to Tennessee was offset by the signing of Chicago free agent Tony Parrish, an equally hard-hitter who hasn't missed a game in four seasons. He'll be paired with free safety Zack Bronson, who tied cornerback Ahmed Plummer with seven interceptions last season. Plummer, entering only his third season, has emerged as one of the league's best cornerbacks. He plays opposite another third-year man, Jason Webster. Top draft choice Mike Rumph will help the 49ers cover the Rams. Seventh-round pick Teddy Gaines will get a chance to do the same, and fourth-rounder Kevin Curtis will back up at safety.

### SPECIAL TEAMS

Fourth-round placekicker Jeff Chandler from Florida should steady the kicking game. Punter Jason Baker was inconsistent and return specialist Vinny Sutherland was adequate but not dangerous. Coverage units were better. ■

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 5	at NY Giants	8:30
September 15	DENVER	4:15
September 22	WASHINGTON	4:15
September 29	OPEN DATE	
October 6	ST. LOUIS	4:15
October 14	at Seattle	9:00
October 20	at New Orleans	1:00
October 27	ARIZONA	4:05
November 3	at Oakland	4:15
November 10	KANSAS CITY	4:15
November 17	at San Diego	4:05
November 25	PHILADELPHIA	9:00
December 1	SEATTLE	4:15
December 8	at Dallas	1:00
December 15	GREEN BAY	4:15
December 21	at Arizona	5:00
December 30	at St. Louis	9:00

All times Eastern

## SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

Steve Mariucci, head coach

Jerry Attaway, physical development; Tom Batta, tight ends; Chris Beake, defensive assistant; Dwaine Board, defensive line; Bruce DeHaven, special teams; Brett Maxie, secondary; Jim Mora Jr., defensive coordinator; Pat Morris, offensive line; Dan Quinn, defensive quality control; Tom Rathman, running backs; Richard Smith, linebackers; George Stewart, wide receivers; Andy Sugarmen, offensive assistant; Ted Tollner, quarterbacks; Greg Knapp, offensive coordinator; Jason Tarver, offensive quality control; Terrell Jones, strength and development coordinator

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
19	Carmazzi, Giovanni	QB	6-3	224	04/14/1977	0	Hofstra
5	Garcia, Jeff	QB	6-1	195	02/24/1970	3	San Jose State
13	Rattay, Tim	QB	6-0	215	03/15/1977	2	Louisiana Tech
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
65	Brown, Ray	G	6-5	318	12/12/1962	14	Arkansas State
76	Costa, Dave	G	6-5	307	09/08/1978	1	Wisconsin
63	Deese, Derrick	T	6-3	289	05/17/1970	8	Southern California
74	Fiore, Dave	G	6-4	290	08/10/1974	4	Hofstra
78	Gragg, Scott	T	6-8	325	02/28/1972	7	Montana
60	Lynch, Ben	C	6-4	295	11/18/1972	3	California
62	Newberry, Jeremy	C	6-5	304	03/23/1976	3	California
64	Stephenson, Milford	G	6-2	300	02/08/1977	0	Kansas State
65	Stone, Ron	G	6-5	320	07/20/1971	8	Boston College
68	Ward, Chad	G	6-4	320	01/12/1977	0	Washington
77	Willig, Matt	T	6-8	315	01/21/1969	8	Southern California
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
32	Barlow, Kevan	RB	6-1	238	01/07/1979	1	Pittsburgh
40	Beasley, Fred	RB	6-0	246	09/18/1974	4	Auburn
20	Hearst, Garrison	RB	5-11	215	01/04/1971	7	Georgia
22	Jackson, Terry	RB	6-0	232	01/10/1976	3	Florida
43	Lewis, Jonas	RB	5-9	210	12/27/1976	2	San Diego State
27	Smith, Paul	RB	5-11	234	01/31/1978	2	UTEP
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
85	Clark, Greg	TE	6-4	255	04/07/1972	4	Stanford
86	Jennings, Brian	TE	6-5	245	10/14/1976	2	Arizona State
82	Johnson, Eric	TE	6-3	256	09/15/1979	1	Yale
81	Owens, Terrell	WR	6-3	226	12/07/1973	6	Chattanooga
83	Stokes, J.J.	WR	6-4	217	10/06/1972	7	UCLA
89	Streets, Tai	WR	6-2	206	04/20/1977	3	Michigan
25	Sutherland, Vinny	WR	5-8	188	04/22/1978	1	Purdue
88	Swift, Justin	TE	6-3	265	08/14/1975	3	Kansas State
84	Wilson, Cedrick	WR	5-10	179	12/17/1978	1	Tennessee
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
90	Bryant, Junior	DT	6-4	278	01/16/1971	6	Notre Dame
96	Carter, Andre	DE	6-4	265	05/12/1979	1	California
68	Davis, Jerome	DE	6-4	275	03/04/1974	0	Minnesota
95	Engelberger, John	DE	6-4	260	10/18/1976	2	Virginia Tech
99	Holloway, Menson	DT	6-2	285	07/12/1978	0	UTEP
92	McGrew, Reggie	DT	6-1	312	12/16/1976	2	Florida
77	Moran, Sean	DE	6-3	280	06/05/1973	6	Colorado State
91	Okeafor, Chike	DE	6-4	254	03/27/1976	3	Purdue
93	Schlecht, John	DT	6-0	290	05/23/1978	1	Minnesota
90	Setzer, Bobby	DE	6-4	280	06/16/1976	1	Boise State
94	Stubblefield, Dana	DT	6-2	290	11/14/1970	9	Kansas
71	Wilson, Troy	DE	6-4	257	11/22/1970	6	Pittsburg State
97	Young, Bryant	DT	6-3	291	01/27/1972	8	Notre Dame
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
45	Blades, Al	S	6-2	205	03/19/1977	0	Miami (FL)
31	Bronson, Zack	S	6-1	201	01/28/1974	5	McNeese State
26	Holman, Rashad	CB	5-11	191	01/17/1978	1	Louisville
28	Keith, John	S	6-0	207	02/04/1977	2	Furman
21	Parker, Anthony	CB	6-1	200	12/04/1975	2	Weber State
37	Parrish, Tony	S	5-10	208	11/23/1975	4	Washington
29	Plummer, Ahmed	CB	5-11	191	03/26/1976	2	Ohio State
36	Webster, Jason	CB	5-9	180	09/08/1977	2	Texas A&M
23	Williams, Jimmy	CB	5-10	184	03/10/1979	1	Vanderbilt
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
98	Lincoln, Alex	LB	6-0	250	11/17/1977	0	Auburn
98	Peterson, Julian	LB	6-3	235	07/28/1978	2	Michigan State
50	Smith, Derek	LB	6-2	245	01/18/1975	5	Arizona State
54	Stewart, Quincy	LB	6-1	220	03/27/1978	1	Louisiana Tech
53	Ulbrich, Jeff	LB	6-0	249	02/17/1977	2	Hawaii
55	Winborn, Jamie	LB	5-11	242	05/14/1979	1	Vanderbilt
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
7	Baker, Jason	P	6-1	195	05/17/1978	1	Iowa
6	Cortez, Jose	K	5-11	205	05/27/1975	2	Oregon State

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	27	Rumph, Mike	CB	6-2	205	11/08/1979	Miami (FL)
3	4	Rasheed, Saleem	LB	6-2	229	06/15/1981	Alabama
4	4	Chandler, Jeff	K	6-2	218	06/18/1979	Florida
4	29	Curtis, Kevin	S	6-2	212	07/28/1980	Texas Tech
5	28	Doman, Brandon	QB	6-2	210	12/29/1976	Brigham Young
5	37	Shaw, Josh	DT	6-3	279	09/07/1979	Michigan State
6	29	Anelli, Mark	TE	6-4	262	06/05/1979	Wisconsin
7	28	Heitmann, Eric	G	6-4	305	02/24/1980	Stanford
7	37	Kosier, Kyle	T	6-5	293	01/27/1978	Arizona State
7	45	Gaines, Teddy	CB	5-11	166	09/12/1979	Tennessee





## Holmgren remembers how the (NFC) West was won, but does he have the horses?

**A**fter three years and a 24-25 record in the AFC, Mike Holmgren moves his Seahawks to the NFC, where he should be more comfortable. Not that there is any great difference anymore, but Holmgren can argue he is an NFC man born and bred, starting in San Francisco and culminating with his 1997 Super Bowl win in Green Bay.

Although the company in the NFC West among the Rams and 49ers will be no easier than it was for the Seahawks in the AFC West, Holmgren should be happy to say goodbye to

Denver's Mike Shanahan and Oakland's Jon Gruden and hello to St. Louis' Mike Martz and San Francisco's Steve Mariucci. They are all friends of high-powered offenses, and Gruden and Mariucci once served on Holmgren's staffs. It's just that the NFC breeds more familiarity.

### OFFENSE

Likewise, Holmgren's quarterback du jour, Trent Dilfer, is returning to the NFC. The problem with that is Dilfer is 15-0 as an AFC starter in Baltimore and Seattle after a less-than-stellar career in Tampa Bay. Realignment could be a bad sign for him, although Dilfer did get the only thing he's requested for years—a promise. After much deliberation and a quick look at the record, Holmgren decided Dilfer was a better quarterback than Matt Hasselbeck, the young prospect Holmgren plucked from Green Bay.

Hasselbeck was 5-7 as a starter and Dilfer 4-0. The math left the Seahawks a game short of the playoffs and presented a problem for Holmgren that he finally solved by simple arithmetic. Dilfer is his man, at least for the moment.

Mistakes used to kill Dilfer, so Hasselbeck can take heart in his own future. Holmgren is an impatient man when it comes to a quarterback making mistakes. Brett Favre nearly drove the coach nuts before driving the Packers to their Super Bowl. If Holmgren and Dilfer can continue to coexist and improve their unacceptable 27th ranking in passing, the Seahawks could wear out their welcome in the "new" NFC West.

*Veteran safety Reggie Tongue was a starter in all 16 games for the Seahawks last season, finishing fourth on the team with 76 tackles.*



Shaun Alexander made them forget about Ricky Watters during his second season in Seattle, as he rushed for 1,318 yards, led the AFC in rushing touchdowns with 14 and finished second on the team in receptions with 44.

Holmgren is counting on the continued development of two men—running back Shaun Alexander and receiver Koren Robinson. Alexander sprung onto the scene last year to gain a spectacular 1,318 yards in only 12 starts while subbing for injured veteran Ricky Watters. Even so, Holmgren was slow to anoint Alexander as the answer. He is, despite occasional mistakes in blitz pickups. Jay Graham is the backup, joined by second-round pick Maurice Morris from Oregon. Mack Strong and Heath Evans are the fullbacks.

Robinson's offseason was more promising than his 39-catch rookie season, when he was slowed by a hamstring injury. Opposite Darrell Jackson and Bobby Engram, Robinson should prosper. Holmgren needed a new tight end badly and got one in Washington's big Jerramy Stevens, but he may have outsmarted himself. He traded down in the first round thinking Colorado tight end Daniel Graham would be available, only to watch New England trade up to snatch him. Stevens has talent, but also a checkered past he must continue to overcome. The Seahawks used a fifth-round pick on another tight end, Northern Iowa's Ryan Hannam.

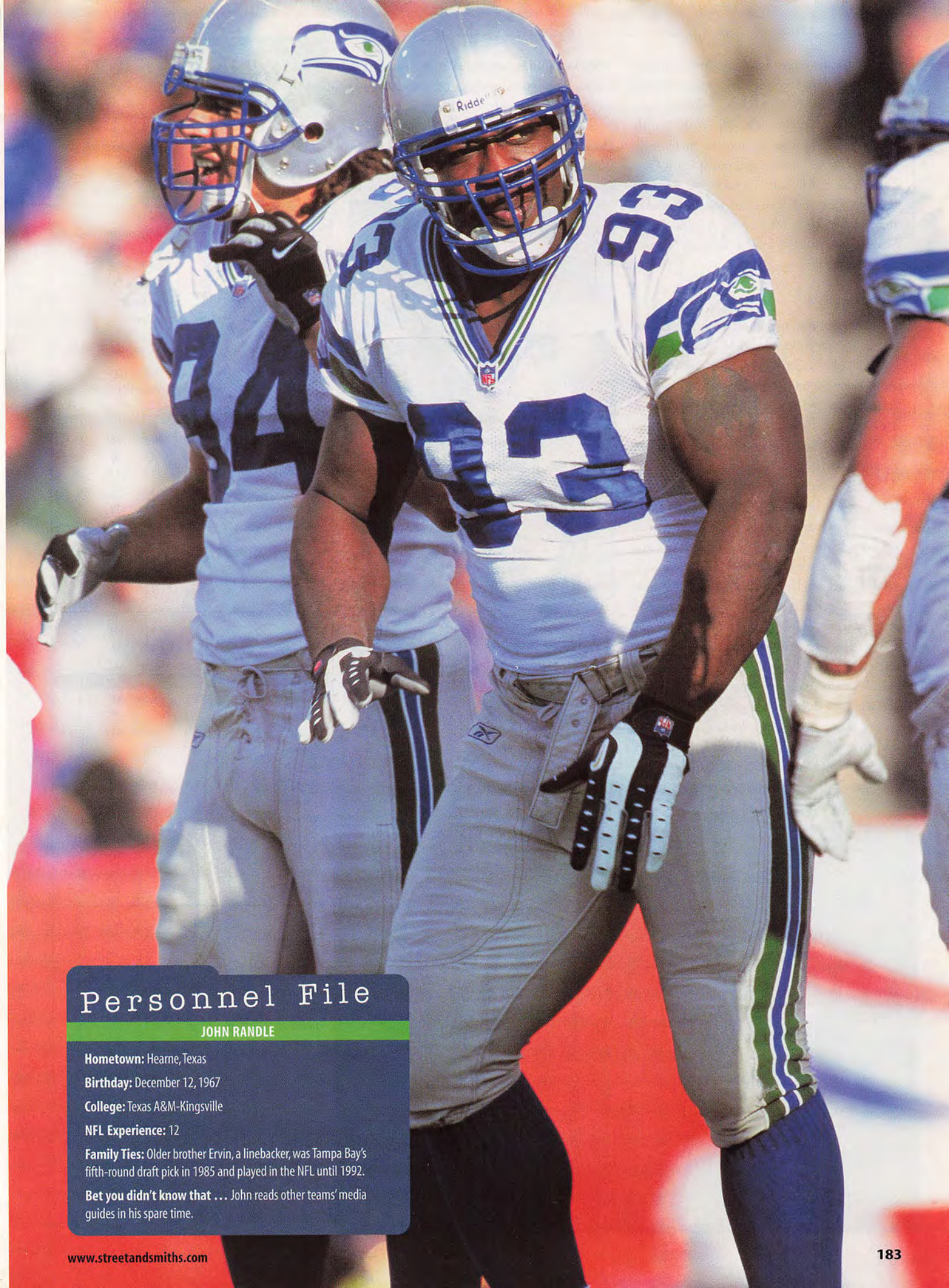


## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	298.3	25	TOTAL DEFENSE	325.4	20
RUSHING	121.0	9	AGAINST RUSH	107.6	15
PASSING	177.3	27	AGAINST PASS	217.8	23
SCORING	301	19	PTS. ALLOWED	324	18
PUNT RETURNS	10.7	11	INTERCEPTIONS	14	26
KICK RETURNS	20.8	20	SACKS	38	21
RED ZONE TD %	51.4	11	TURNOVER DIFF.	+6	111







## Personnel File

### JOHN RANDLE

**Hometown:** Hearne, Texas

**Birthday:** December 12, 1967

**College:** Texas A&M-Kingsville

**NFL Experience:** 12

**Family Ties:** Older brother Ervin, a linebacker, was Tampa Bay's fifth-round draft pick in 1985 and played in the NFL until 1992.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** John reads other teams' media guides in his spare time.



Left tackle Walter Jones might be the best in the business. Second-year left guard Steve Hutchinson is well on his way to similar accolades. That makes the left side of the Seattle line already the most formidable in football. Center Robbie Tobeck, right guard Chris Gray and right tackle Chris McIntosh need to hold up their end. The Seahawks lost reliable right tackle Todd Weiner to Atlanta. Floyd Wedderburn, Floyd Womack and Dennis Norman are backups.

## DEFENSE

Thanks to the arrival of free agents John Randle, Levon Kirkland and Marcus Robertson last year, the Seahawks improved on defense. Still, they were only 20th and need to step up again to contend with the big-time offenses of the Rams and 49ers.

Another 11-sack season from the 34-year-old Randle would be a nice place for defensive coordinator Steve Sidwell to start. The Seahawks need better production out of ends Lamar King, Antonio Cochran and John Hilliard than they got from departed Michael Sinclair and the combination of Hilliard and King. Chad Eaton is a solid sidekick inside with Randle. Former Patriot Brandon Mitchell could push for playing time at end. Second-round end Anton Palepoi of Nevada-Las Vegas will have to prove he wasn't a reach that early.

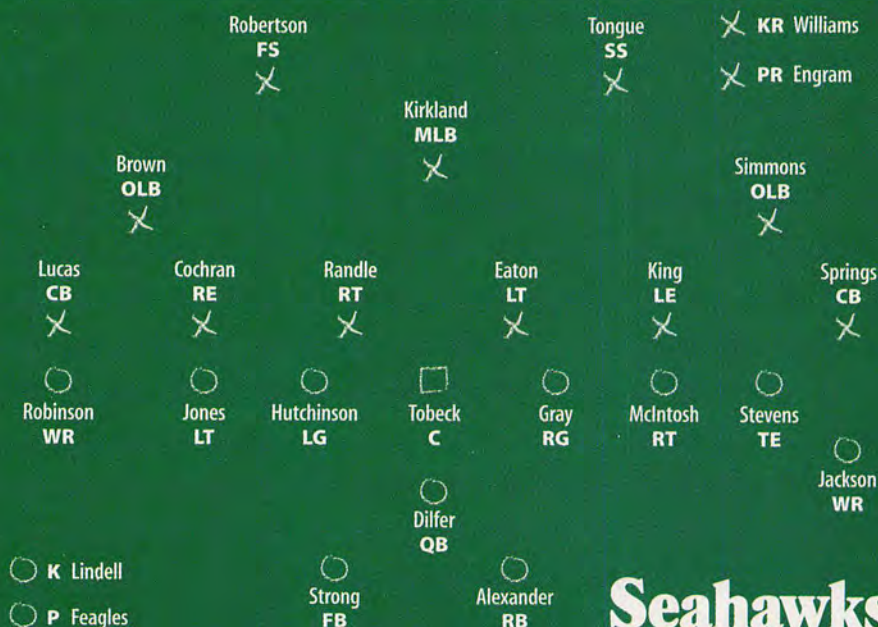
Linebackers Anthony Simmons, Chad Brown and Kirkland each finished with more than 100 tackles, which is what linebackers are paid to do. It remains a solid unit. Marcus Bell, Isaiah Kacyvenski and Tim Terry are backups.

Shawn Springs, suspended at the end of last season, must return strong at cornerback, where the Seahawks should be well-represented with second-year man Ken Lucas, Carolina addition Doug Evans and last year's most valuable fill-in, Willie Williams. More big plays from safeties Robertson and Reggie Tongue would be welcome.



The Seahawks hope fourth-year defensive end Lamar King bounces back from an injury-filled 2001 season that caused him to miss half of the team's games.

## PROJECTED STARTERS



# Seahawks

## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 9, Lost 7

DATE	SCORE
09/09	W 9-6 at Cleveland
09/23	L 3-27 Philadelphia
09/30	L 14-38 at Oakland
10/07	W 24-15 Jacksonville
10/14	W 34-21 Denver
10/28	L 20-24 Miami
11/04	L 14-27 at Washington
11/11	W 34-27 Oakland
11/18	W 23-20 at Buffalo
11/25	L 7-19 at Kansas City
12/02	W 13-10 San Diego
12/09	L 7-20 at Denver
12/16	W 29-3 Dallas
12/23	L 24-27 at N.Y. Giants
12/30	W 25-22 at San Diego
01/06	W 21-18 Kansas City

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Alexander	309	1318	4.3	88	14
Watters	72	318	4.4	40	1
Hasselbeck	40	141	3.5	17	0
Strong	17	55	3.2	12	0
Graham	12	43	3.6	19	0
Dilfer	11	17	1.5	11	0
Robinson	4	13	3.3	6	0
Huard	1	11	11.0	11	0
Evans	2	11	5.5	7	0
Jackson	1	9	9.0	9	0

Team	469	1936	4.1	88t	15
Opponents	427	1721	4.0	57	9

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
D. Jackson	70	1081	15.4	64	8
Alexander	44	343	7.8	28	2
Robinson	39	536	13.7	42	1
Ingram	29	400	13.8	31	0
Fauria	21	188	9.0	30	1
Strong	17	141	8.3	35	0
J. Williams	12	212	17.7	49	1
Watters	11	107	9.7	34	0
Mili	8	98	12.3	41	2
Bannister	4	50	12.5	17	0
Rogers	1	7	7.0	7	0
Graham	1	6	6.0	6	0

Team	258	3164	12.3	64	15
Opponents	339	3733	11.0	65	20

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Hasselbeck	321	176	2023	7	8
Dilfer	122	73	1014	7	4
Huard	17	9	127	1	0
Feagles	2	0	0	0	0

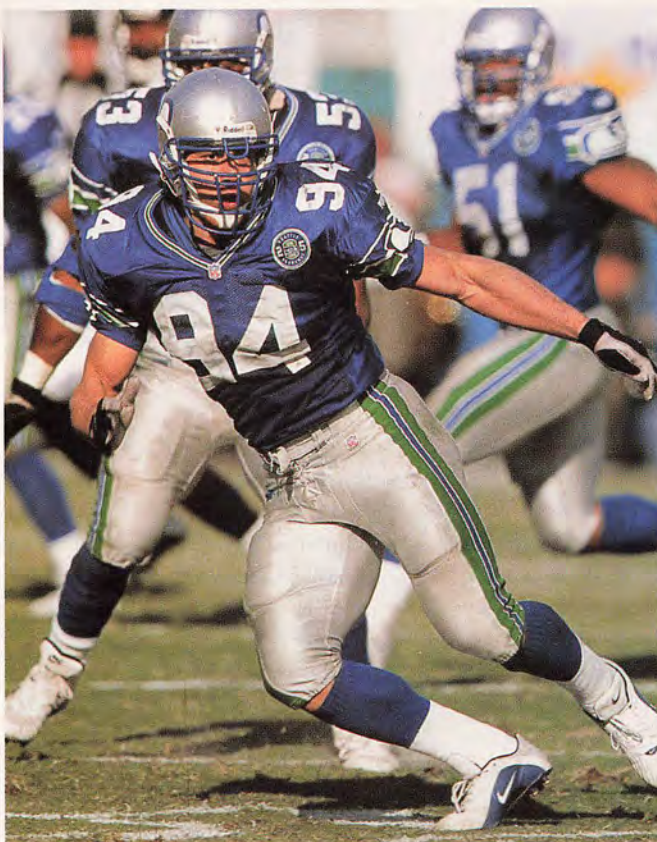
Team	432	258	3164	15	12
Opponents	563	339	3733	20	14

## SACKS

Randle 11.0, Brown 8.5, Cochran 4.5, Sinclair 3.5, Terry 2.5, Simmons 2.0, Bell, 1.0, Charlton 1.0, Eaton 1.0, Joseph 1.0, Kirkland 1.0, Tongue 1.0

Seahawks 38.0, Opponents 49.0





Nine-year veteran linebacker Chad Brown, who was second on the Seahawks with 8.5 sacks last year, has started 127 of his 134 career NFL games.

They are backed up by Kerry Joseph and Curtis Fuller. Draft picks Kris Richard and Terreal Bierria will add depth.

### SPECIAL TEAMS

After losing return specialist Charlie Rogers in the expansion draft, Engram will take over on punts and James Williams on kickoffs. Placekicker Rian Lindell needs to be more consistent. Jeff Feagles has punted in the league since 1988, but his stay in Seattle appears short after the drafting of Michigan State's Craig Jarrett in the sixth round. ■

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Oakland	4:15
September 15	ARIZONA	4:05
September 22	at NY Giants	4:15
September 29	MINNESOTA	8:30
October 6	OPEN DATE	
October 14	SAN FRANCISCO	9:00
October 20	at St. Louis	1:00
October 27	at Dallas	1:00
November 3	WASHINGTON	4:15
November 10	at Arizona	4:05
November 17	DENVER	4:15
November 25	KANSAS CITY	4:05
December 1	at San Francisco	4:15
December 8	PHILADELPHIA	4:05
December 15	at Atlanta	1:00
December 22	ST. LOUIS	4:05
December 29	at San Diego	4:15

All times Eastern

## SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Mike Holmgren, head coach

Larry Brooks, defensive line; Jerry Colquitt, offensive quality control; Nolan Cromwell, wide receivers;

Ken Flajole, secondary; Gil Haskell, offensive coordinator; Johnny Holland, linebackers;

Kent Johnson, strength and conditioning; Jim Lind, tight ends; Clayton Lopez, defensive quality control;

Tom Lovat, assistant head coach/offensive line; Stump Mitchell, running backs;

Pete Rodriguez, special teams coordinator; Steve Sidwell, defensive coordinator;

Bill Laveroni, assistant offensive line; Jim Zorn, quarterbacks; Mark Michaels, assistant special teams

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
4	Differ, Trent	QB	6-4	229	03/13/1972	8	Fresno State
8	Hasselbeck, Matt	QB	6-4	233	09/25/1975	3	Boston College
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
52	Darche, Jean-Philippe	C	6-0	239	02/28/1975	2	McGill
62	Gray, Chris	G	6-4	303	06/19/1970	9	Auburn
76	Hutchinson, Steve	G	6-5	311	11/01/1977	1	Michigan
71	Jones, Walter	T	6-5	307	01/19/1974	5	Florida State
75	McIntosh, Chris	T	6-6	314	02/20/1977	2	Wisconsin
68	Norman, Dennis	T	6-5	307	01/26/1980	0	Princeton
	Peko, Siituppe	T	6-4	300	09/19/1978	0	Michigan State
62	Rawlings, Josh	T	6-3	305	04/11/1977	0	Minnesota
61	Toback, Robbie	C	6-4	298	03/06/1970	8	Washington State
69	Wedderburn, Floyd	G	6-5	333	05/05/1976	2	Penn State
77	Womack, Floyd	T	6-4	330	11/15/1978	1	Mississippi State
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
37	Alexander, Shaun	RB	5-11	220	08/30/1977	2	Alabama
44	Evans, Heath	RB	6-0	249	12/30/1978	1	Auburn
35	Graham, Jay	RB	5-11	215	07/14/1975	4	Tennessee
38	Strong, Mack	RB	6-0	235	09/11/1971	8	Georgia
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
85	Bannister, Alex	WR	6-5	201	04/23/1979	1	Eastern Kentucky
83	Bowens, Fabien	WR	5-11	189	02/29/1972	6	Western Illinois
14	Cook, Kerwin	WR	6-1	171	12/21/1979	0	Tulane
84	Davis, Shockmain	WR	6-0	205	08/20/1977	1	Angelo State
16	Hodge, Damon	WR	6-1	192	02/16/1977	1	Alabama State
82	Jackson, Darrell	WR	6-0	199	12/06/1978	2	Florida
89	Mili, Itula	TE	6-4	258	04/20/1973	4	Brigham Young
81	Robinson, Koren	WR	6-1	213	03/19/1980	1	North Carolina State
87	Stewart, Russell	TE	6-4	250	09/25/1977	1	Stanford
88	Williams, James	WR	5-10	188	03/06/1978	2	Marshall
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
60	Brown, Joe	DT	6-6	288	03/05/1977	1	Ohio State
78	Cochran, Antonio	DT	6-4	290	06/21/1976	3	Georgia
90	Eaton, Chad	DT	6-5	306	04/06/1972	6	Washington State
97	Grimes, Reggie	DE	6-4	300	11/07/1976	1	Alabama
95	Hilliard, John	DE	6-2	294	04/16/1976	2	Mississippi State
92	King, Lamar	DE	6-3	294	08/10/1975	3	Saginaw Valley
91	LaBounty, Matt	DE	6-4	275	01/03/1969	8	Oregon
96	Mitchell, Brandon	NT	6-3	280	06/19/1975	5	Texas A&M
93	Randle, John	DT	6-1	287	12/12/1967	12	Texas A&M-Kingsville
91	Watson, Tim	DT	6-4	290	12/23/1974	0	Rowan
98	Woodard, Cedric	DT	6-2	311	09/05/1977	1	Texas
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
28	Blackmon, Harold	CB	5-11	208	05/20/1978	1	Northwestern
23	Charlton, Ike	CB	5-11	204	10/06/1977	2	Virginia Tech
29	Fuller, Curtis	S	5-10	180	07/25/1978	1	Texas Christian
33	Kelly, Maurice	S	6-2	209	10/09/1972	2	East Tennessee State
21	Lucas, Ken	CB	6-0	203	01/23/1979	1	Mississippi
22	Miranda, Paul	CB	5-10	178	05/02/1976	3	Central Florida
31	Robertson, Marcus	S	5-11	211	10/02/1969	11	Iowa State
24	Springs, Shawn	CB	6-0	196	03/11/1975	5	Ohio State
25	Tongue, Reggie	S	6-0	203	04/11/1973	6	Oregon State
27	Williams, Willie	CB	5-9	181	12/26/1970	9	Western Carolina
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
55	Bell, Marcus	LB	6-1	240	07/19/1977	2	Arizona
94	Brown, Chad	LB	6-2	240	07/12/1970	9	Colorado
57	Huff, Orlando	LB	6-2	246	08/14/1978	1	Fresno State
58	Kacyvenski, Isaiah	LB	6-1	250	10/03/1977	2	Harvard
99	Kirkland, Levon	LB	6-1	275	02/17/1969	10	Clemson
53	Miller, Keith	LB	6-1	238	07/09/1976	1	California
51	Simmons, Anthony	LB	6-0	236	06/20/1976	4	Clemson
59	Terry, Tim	LB	6-3	243	07/26/1974	3	Temple
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
10	Feagles, Jeff	P	6-1	204	03/07/1966	14	Miami (FL)
9	Lindell, Rian	K	6-3	226	01/20/1977	2	Washington State

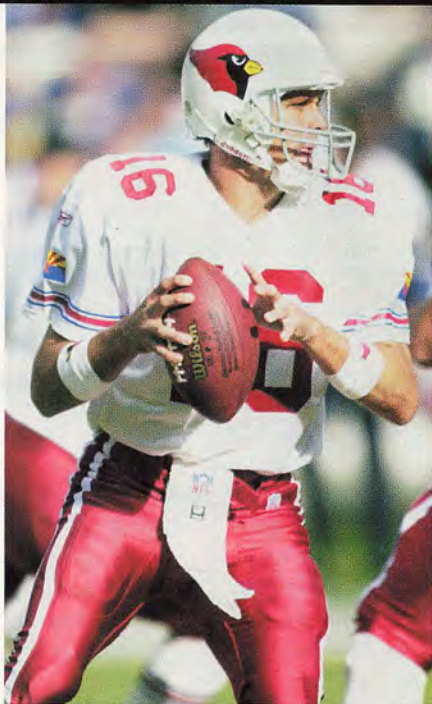
## 2002 DRAFTES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	28	Stevens, Jerramy	TE	6-6	265	11/13/1979	Washington
2	22	Morris, Maurice	RB	5-11	202	12/01/1979	Oregon
2	28	Palepoi, Anton	DE	6-2	275	01/19/1978	UNLV
3	20	Richard, Kris	CB	5-10	186	10/28/1978	USC
4	22	Bierria, Terreal	S	6-3	216	10/10/1980	Georgia
5	11	Bernard, Rocky	DT	6-3	294	04/19/1979	Texas A&M
5	34	Hannam, Ryan	TE	6-2	251	02/24/1980	Northern Iowa
5	36	Hill, Matt	T	6-6	300	11/10/1978	Boise State
6	22	Jarrett, Craig	P	6-2	215	07/17/1979	Michigan State
7	21	Kelly, Jeff	QB	6-1	206	09/07/1979	Southern Mississippi





# Arizona Cardinals



## The two Jakes are now one very productive QB, but is it enough to better the Cards' hand?

**F**ew coaches are more upbeat than Dave McGinnis, who is trying mightily to forge a team that mirrors his attitude. By winning five of their last eight games last season, the Cardinals are heading in the right direction again.

After so many disappointments over so many years, the key is to keep the momentum. To do it, McGinnis must solve several glaring problems on a team that overachieved at 7-9. The Cardinals boast some solid units, like a huge offensive line to protect Jake Plummer, but the question marks still outnumber the exclamation points.

### OFFENSE

Entering his sixth year, Plummer is coming off his best season. For the first time, he threw more touchdown passes than interceptions and showed maturity under offensive coordinator Rich Olson and quarterbacks coach Geep Chryst. Plummer and the Giants' Kerry Collins were the only quarterbacks to take every snap on their team, so the Cardinals feel confident in backing him up with untested Chris Greisen instead of veteran Dave Brown. They hedged their bets by adding promising prospect Josh McCown from Sam Houston State in the third round because they believe his potential is too good to pass up.

Plummer threw for more fourth-quarter yards than any other quarterback in the league, indicating the Cardinals were behind more than they would prefer. The good news is he also tied for

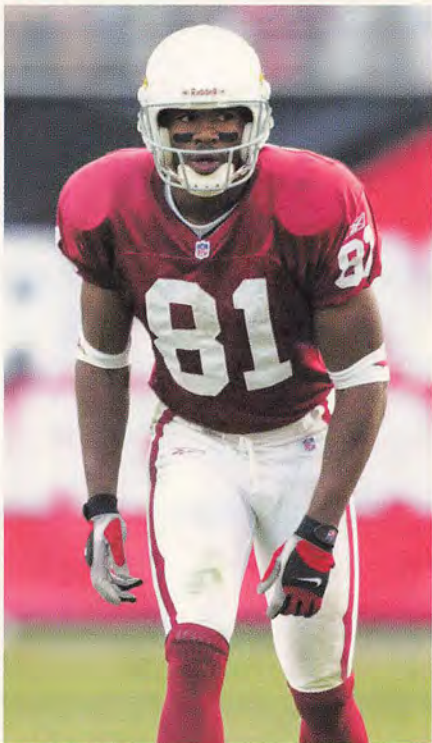
the league lead with 10 fourth-quarter touchdown passes and won four times in comebacks, his specialty.

The Cardinals have found a superstar in receiver David Boston, whose familiar muscular arms hauled in 98 passes for a league-leading 1,598 yards. At 230 pounds, Boston retained his speed and became an intimidating force in his third season. Even more is expected this year as he becomes more and more comfortable with Plummer.

Reliable Frank Sanders and developing MarTay Jenkins complement Boston at wide receiver, and McGinnis added San Diego's outstanding receiving tight end Freddie Jones, who could really open up Plummer's options. Fifth-round wideout Jason McAddley from Alabama is another big, fast prospect.

The passing game will only improve at the same rate as the running game, however, and this is where the Cardinals are on thin ice. By allowing top rusher Michael Pittman to escape to Tampa Bay, McGinnis is putting his hopes on Thomas Jones, the top draft pick of two years ago whose 3.4-yard average must improve or else it won't get done. Undrafted second-year prospect Marcel Shipp is the only alternative and, though he's shown flashes, it's a huge risk. The Cards didn't address running back until the sixth round of the draft when they took Kansas State's Josh Scobey. Joel Makovicka remains the lead blocker.

The Cardinals have three of the biggest tackles and guards in the league in L.J. Shelton (335), Leonard Davis (370) and Anthony Clement (350). Right guard Pete Kendall (294) and center Mike Gruttadauria (284) must feel skinny in that crowd. Chris Dishman and Jason Starkey are reserves.



*Jake Plummer (top) led the NFL in fourth-quarter passing yards last season with 1,277 and tied for the NFC lead in fourth-quarter TD passes with 10. Below, seven-year veteran receiver Frank Sanders had his streak of 107 consecutive games played broken last year when he missed a December 2 contest with a hamstring pull.*

## NUMBERS

CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK	CATEGORY	TEAM STATS	NFL RANK
TOTAL OFFENSE	306.1	18	TOTAL DEFENSE	355.3	28
RUSHING	90.6	27	AGAINST RUSH	130.4	24
PASSING	215.6	13	AGAINST PASS	224.9	26
SCORING	295	20	PTS. ALLOWED	343	22
PUNT RETURNS	11.0	8	INTERCEPTIONS	17	18
KICK RETURNS	22.2	12	SACKS	19	31
RED ZONE TD %	44.2	21	TURNOVER DIFF.	-3	18T



### DEFENSE

McGinnis needs the most help for his 28th-ranked defense. The Cardinals gave up the most points in the NFC East last year and now must move to the NFC West and face the St. Louis Rams and San Francisco 49ers, the two highest-scoring





## Personnel File

**DAVID BOSTON**

**Hometown:** Humble, Texas

**Birthday:** August 19, 1978

**College:** Ohio State

**NFL Experience:** 3

**Family Ties:** Older brother Byron Jr. played football at Sam Houston State.

**Bet you didn't know that ...** David's father, Byron, officiated in the Southwest Conference and World League, and is now in his seventh year as a line judge in the NFL.





Kwamie Lassiter, the NFC's Defensive Player of the Month for November, finished second in the conference in interceptions with nine.

teams in the NFC. Defensive coordinator Larry Marmie needs overtime pay.

On a team that thought it had solved its front four problems with Simeon Rice, Andre Wadsworth, Eric Swann and Mark Smith only three years ago, the Cardinals are starting over. At end, last year's second-round pick, Kyle Vanden Bosch, is coming off a knee injury. Fill-in Fred Wakefield then led the front with 2.5 sacks playing opposite Tom Burke most of the time. They will be joined by third-round pick Dennis Johnson of Kentucky, who will get a chance to start.

Although tackles Russell Davis and Barron Tanner both started all 16 games, they will be fighting for playing time this season with the arrival of top draft choice Wendell Bryant from Wisconsin and fourth-rounder Nate Dwyer of Kansas. The Cardinals made a serious run at free agent La'Roi Glover but lost him to Dallas. With only 19 sacks last season, this team needs serious help up front, and Bryant has the kind of penetrating quickness McGinnis sought in Glover.

The Cardinals are average at linebacker with Rob Fredrickson, Ronald McKinnon and Raynoch Thompson, so second-round pick Levar Fisher will challenge for playing time. McGinnis is also hopeful that practice squad player Michael Young, special-teams ace Zack Walz or underachieving Johnny Rutledge can step up.

Free-agent signee Duane Starks from Baltimore will more than offset the loss of cornerback Corey Chavous to Minnesota. Starks' cover ability will take pressure off the front seven. Third-year man David Barrett is expected to be

## PROJECTED STARTERS



## 2001 FINAL STATS

Won 7, Lost 9

DATE	SCORE	
09/23	L 17-38	Denver
09/30	L 14-34	Atlanta
10/07	W 21-20	at Philadelphia
10/14	L 13-20	at Chicago
10/21	W 24-16	Kansas City
10/28	L 3-17	at Dallas
11/04	L 7-21	Philadelphia
11/11	L 10-17	N.Y. Giants
11/18	W 45-38	Detroit
11/25	W 20-17	at San Diego
12/02	W 34-31	at Oakland
12/09	L 10-20	Washington
12/15	L 13-17	at N.Y. Giants
12/23	W 17-10	Dallas
12/30	W 30-7	at Carolina
01/06	L 17-20	at Washington

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Pittman	241	846	3.5	42	5
Jones	112	380	3.4	21	5
Plummer	35	163	4.7	21	0
Boston	5	35	7.0	17	0
Makovicka	1	19	19.0	19	0
Jenkins	3	4	1.3	16	0
McKinley	1	1	1.0	1	0
Gruttadauria	1	1	1.0	1	0
Player	1	0	0	0	0

Team	400	1449	3.6	42	10
Opponents	496	2087	4.2	41	10

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Boston	98	1598	16.3	61	8
Pittman	42	264	6.3	27	0
Sanders	41	618	15.1	68	2
Jenkins	32	518	16.2	53	3
Mitchell	25	196	7.8	24	2
Jones	21	151	7.2	18	0
Makovicka	16	95	5.9	25	1
Hardy	11	79	7.2	13	2
Jackson	9	44	4.9	16	0
Bush	8	80	10.0	16	0
McKinley	1	10	10.0	10	0

Team	304	3653	12.0	68t	18
Opponents	337	3726	11.1	79t	26

PASSING	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD	INT
Plummer	525	304	3653	18	14
Sanders	1	0	0	0	0

Team	526	304	3653	18	14
Opponents	556	337	3726	26	17

### SACKS

Fredrickson 4.0, Wakefield 2.5, Burke 2.0, Davis 2.0, McKinnon 2.0, Lassiter 1.0, Sanyika 1.0, Tosi 1.0, Walz 1.0, Bell 0.5, Vanden Bosch 0.5, Hill 0.5, Thompson 0.5, Wilson 0.5

Cardinals 19.0, Opponents 29.0





The Cardinals are hopeful that second-year defensive end Kyle Vanden Bosch can bounce back this season after missing most of 2001 following reconstructive surgery on his right knee.

an upgrade at the other corner in place of former first-rounder Tom Knight. Free safety Kwamie Lassiter was the team's most valuable defensive player with nine interceptions. Pat Tillman is back at strong safety. Adrian Wilson is an athletic backup who could push Tillman.

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Although the Cardinals didn't have a whole lot to celebrate, kicker Bill Gramatica found cause after a 42-yard field goal and tore the ACL in his right knee during one post-game celebration. His status remains iffy. Punter Scott Player made the Pro Bowl in 2000. Punt returner Arnold Jackson and kick returner Jenkins provide excitement and explosion. Jackson was the only return man without a fair catch last season.

## 2002 SCHEDULE

September 8	at Washington	1:00
September 15	at Seattle	4:05
September 22	SAN DIEGO	4:05
September 29	NY GIANTS	4:05
October 6	at Carolina	1:00
October 13	OPEN DATE	
October 20	DALLAS	4:15
October 27	at San Francisco	4:05
November 3	ST. LOUIS	4:15
November 10	SEATTLE	4:05
November 17	at Philadelphia	1:00
November 24	OAKLAND	4:05
December 1	at Kansas City	1:00
December 8	DETROIT	4:05
December 15	at St. Louis	8:30
December 21	SAN FRANCISCO	5:00
December 29	at Denver	4:15

All times Eastern

## ARIZONA CARDINALS

Dave McGinnis, head coach

Geep Chryst, quarterbacks; Jeff Fitzgerald, defensive backs; Joe Greene, defensive line; Hank Kuhlmann, special teams; Stan Kwan, defensive quality control; Larry Marmie, defensive coordinator; Rich Olson, offensive coordinator; Bob Rogucki, strength and conditioning; Johnny Roland, running backs; Jerry Sullivan, wide receivers; George Warhop, offensive line; Mike Devlin, asst. offensive line/offensive quality control; Pete Hoener, tight ends; Kevin Ramsey, defensive backs

#	QUARTERBACK		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
14	Greisen, Chris	QB	6-3	219	07/02/1976	2	Northwest Missouri State
16	Plummer, Jake	QB	6-2	202	12/19/1974	5	Arizona State
#	OFFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
61	Borum, Jarvis	T	6-7	324	09/16/1978	1	North Carolina State
65	Clement, Anthony	T	6-8	350	04/10/1976	4	Southwestern Louisiana
64	Davidts-Garrido, N.	T	6-6	336	10/04/1972	5	Southern California
75	Davis, Leonard	T	6-6	370	09/05/1978	1	Texas
67	Dishman, Chris	G	6-3	332	02/27/1974	5	Nebraska
60	Gruttadauria, Mike	C	6-3	284	12/06/1972	6	Central Florida
66	Kendall, Pete	G	6-5	294	07/09/1973	6	Boston College
68	Scott, Yusuf	G	6-3	342	11/30/1976	3	Arizona
70	Shelton, L.J.	T	6-6	335	03/21/1976	3	Eastern Michigan
50	Starkey, Jason	C	6-4	282	07/17/1977	2	Marshall
#	RUNNING BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
26	Jones, Thomas	RB	5-10	211	08/19/1978	2	Virginia
39	McKinley, Dennis	RB	6-2	248	11/03/1976	3	Mississippi State
31	Shipp, Marcel	RB	5-11	219	08/08/1978	1	Massachusetts
#	RECEIVERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
89	Boston, David	WR	6-2	230	08/19/1978	3	Ohio State
87	Bush, Steve	TE	6-3	258	07/04/1974	5	Arizona State
11	Gilmore, Bryan	WR	6-0	194	07/21/1978	2	Midwestern State
49	Hart, Lawrence	TE	6-4	254	09/19/1976	1	Southern University
48	Hodel, Nathan	TE	6-2	247	11/12/1977	0	Illinois
84	Jackson, Arnold	WR	5-8	167	04/09/1977	1	Louisville
82	Jenkins, MarTay	WR	6-0	201	02/28/1975	3	Nebraska-Omaha
88	Jones, Freddie	TE	6-5	270	09/16/1974	5	North Carolina
34	Makovicka, Joel	TE	5-11	246	10/06/1975	3	Nebraska
83	Mitchell, Tywan	TE	6-5	250	12/10/1975	2	Mankato State
	Newcombe, Bobby	WR	5-10	190	08/08/1979	0	Nebraska
81	Sanders, Frank	WR	6-2	207	02/17/1973	7	Auburn
#	DEFENSIVE LINE		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
94	Bell, Marcus	DT	6-2	323	06/01/1979	1	Memphis
71	Bowers, Andy	DT	6-5	283	02/22/1976	1	Utah
95	Burke, Tom	DE	6-3	271	10/12/1976	3	Wisconsin
98	Davis, Russell	DT	6-4	306	03/28/1975	3	North Carolina
79	Fatafeh, Mario	DT	6-2	296	01/27/1979	1	Kansas State
92	Tanner, Barron	DT	6-3	347	09/14/1973	4	Oklahoma
78	Tosi, Mao	DT	6-6	341	12/12/1976	2	Idaho
93	Vanden Bosch, Kyle	DE	6-4	271	11/17/1978	1	Nebraska
97	Wakefield, Fred	DE	6-7	289	09/17/1978	1	Illinois
#	DEFENSIVE BACKS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
36	Barrett, David	CB	5-10	185	12/22/1977	2	Arkansas
45	Hill, Renaldo	CB	5-11	182	11/12/1978	1	Michigan State
42	Lassiter, Kwamie	S	6-0	203	12/03/1969	7	Kansas
41	Lucas, Justin	CB	5-10	196	07/15/1976	3	Abilene Christian
23	Rhinehart, Coby	CB	5-11	191	02/07/1977	2	Southern Methodist
22	Starks, Duane	CB	5-10	170	05/23/1974	4	Miami (FL)
44	Stone, Michael	CB	5-11	189	02/13/1978	1	Memphis
40	Tillman, Pat	S	5-11	199	11/06/1976	4	Arizona State
22	Wilson, Adrian	S	6-3	207	10/12/1979	1	North Carolina State
#	LINEBACKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
59	Fredrickson, Rob	LB	6-4	242	05/13/1971	8	Michigan State
57	McKinnon, Ronald	LB	6-0	248	09/20/1973	6	North Alabama
51	Rutledge, Johnny	LB	6-3	241	01/04/1977	3	Florida
54	Sanyika, Sekou	LB	6-3	246	03/17/1978	2	California
55	Thompson, Raynoch	LB	6-3	217	11/21/1977	2	Tennessee
56	Woods, LeVar	LB	6-2	241	03/15/1978	1	Iowa
53	Young, Michael	LB	6-1	223	06/01/1978	0	Illinois
#	KICKERS		HT	WT	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE
7	Gramatica, Bill	K	5-10	194	07/10/1978	1	South Florida
1	Oglesby, Cedric	K	5-11	175	07/26/1977	1	South Carolina State
10	Player, Scott	P	6-0	220	12/17/1969	4	Florida State

## 2002 DRAFTEES

RD	PICK	NAME	POS	HT	WT	BORN	COLLEGE
1	12	Bryant, Wendell	DT	6-4	308	09/12/1980	Wisconsin
2	17	Fisher, Levar	LB	6-0	233	11/29/1979	North Carolina State
3	16	McCown, Josh	QB	6-3	217	07/04/1979	Sam Houston State
3	33	Johnson, Dennis	DE	6-4	256	12/04/1979	Kentucky
4	15	Dwyer, Nate	DT	6-3	313	09/30/1978	Kansas
5	14	McAdley, Jason	WR	6-1	203	07/28/1979	Alabama
6	13	Scobey, Josh	RB	5-11	218	12/11/1979	Kansas State
7	12	Banks, Mike	TE	6-4	260	11/05/1979	Iowa State





# CFL PREVIEW

***New leadership and a return to an old friend, Ottawa, may add life to CFL, where Winnipeg and star QB Khari Jones have the look of favorites.***

By RICK MATSUMOTO  
Toronto Star

**Y**ou might think your boss is incompetent. You might even voice that opinion to your spouse over the dinner table. And you may be totally correct in your appraisal. But to express that opinion on-the-record to a newspaper reporter, well, that's something else. It's a one-way ticket out of the plush corner office with the huge mahogany desk, soft leather chair and six-figure salary.

Canadian Football League Commissioner Michael Lysko committed that corporate no-no in March when he lambasted the Toronto Argonaut ownership in a Toronto newspaper.

Lysko blasted the Argo management as "one of total incompetence" and referred to the franchise as "an anchor" on the rest of the league. He went on to describe Argo owner Sherwood Schwarz's hiring of entertainment mogul Garth Drabinsky to run the team's marketing scheme as "a deal with the devil."

Schwarz, who reportedly has lost \$9 million in the two years he has owned the team, was livid at reading Lysko's remarks and immediately called for the commissioner, whom the board of governors had unanimously hired just 15 months earlier, to be fired.

It took 12 days for the axe to fall as the board pondered the options, of which settling the remainder of his three-year, \$750,000 contract or facing a hefty lawsuit were just two. But in the end Lysko was shown the door and British Columbia Lions owner David Braley was named interim commissioner, while the governors set about finding a replacement. There was even a suggestion that the league

might go back to hiring a chairman, who would act as a buffer between the commissioner and the board of governors. One name who kept popping up in such discussions was former CFL star Mike Wadsworth, a lawyer who most recently was athletic director at his alma mater, Notre Dame.

It's unfortunate for the league that Lysko laid his views—with which many CFL followers didn't disagree—on the table of public



scrutiny, because in his short term in office he appeared to be taking the league in a positive direction.

He brought Ottawa back into the loop after a five-year hiatus with a franchise in the East Division. That allowed the league to put Winnipeg back to where it geographically belongs, in the West Division.

He also presented an annual report to the governors that showed a continuing increase in

television ratings, especially among viewers in the vital 18-to-34-year-old category. Telecasts on the TSN cable network showed a 2 percent increase over the previous year and a 5 percent rise on the regular CBC network. Viewership on TSN has increased by 72 percent since 1997 and 21 percent on CBC.

Lysko presided over a 2001 season that was crowned with a Grey Cup game played before a crowd of 65,255 at Montreal's Olympic Stadium—the second-largest gathering in the history of the championship game. And that was accomplished with the hometown Alouettes, the preseason Grey Cup favorites, falling by the wayside in the playoffs.

Any further steps forward for the league, which almost annually appears to be teetering on the brink of disaster only to somehow step back before making the plunge, have to come under the guidance of a new leader, one who will discreetly keep his thoughts behind closed doors.

## EAST DIVISION



**T**he Alouettes were just about everyone's choice to represent the East once again in last year's Grey Cup game after a heartbreaking 28-26 loss in the 2000 championship game. And they seemed well on their way to making those prognosticators look

JOHN SOKOLOWSKI





**Montreal looks forward to having All-CFL player Mike Pringle return healthy this season at running back.**

good. But then, two-thirds of the way into the season, they suffered devastating injuries to starting quarterback Anthony Calvillo and star running back Mike Pringle, and their fortunes tumbled like Enron stock.

The Als lost their final seven games of the regular season, with the last one coming after coach Rod Rust was fired and replaced on an interim basis by GM Jim Popp. The season that had started out with such high expectation ended on a deeply disappointing note, as the Als bowed to Hamilton in the semifinal game.

Anxious to make amends this season, the Als went out in the offseason and hired Don Matthews, the CFL's all-time winningest coach who had been ousted in Edmonton the previous year.

Matthews, who has taken Toronto, B.C. and Baltimore to Grey Cup triumphs, has what must still be considered the team to beat in the East. Pringle and Calvillo have recovered from their injuries and will provide the running and passing strengths of the team once again.

The Als weren't expecting veteran Canadian receiver Jock Climie to return, but they made up for his departure by plucking Cory Grant, another Canadian, away from Hamilton as a free agent. Ben Cahoon, with 56 receptions for 809 yards last season, could have a breakout year if Calvillo can get him the ball.

Defensive end Swift Burch, who led the team with seven sacks, anchors the front four.

The free-agent acquisition of cornerback Wayne Shaw, who was tied for the CFL lead for interceptions with six, and the re-signing of Barron Miles keep the secondary solid, but Kelly Wiltshire, who was lost to Ottawa in the expansion draft, will be missed at linebacker.



The Ti-cats have lost a significant part of their defensive snarl. They watched helplessly as end Joe Montford, the league's top defensive player in three of the last four years, defected to the arch-rival Toronto Argonauts. That loss came after defensive back Gerald Vaughn used his free-agent status to sign with the Ottawa Renegades and speedy Canadian wideout Corey Grant jumped to the Alouettes.

Coach Ron Lancaster, however, takes the attitude that life goes on. He says great players have departed in the past through retirement or free agency and teams have carried on to win championships.

With the loss of Montford and the accompanying criticism dogging the club over his loss, Lancaster was anxious to get to training camp and on to the task of replacing the South Carolina State product.

"We'll bring in five or six guys and hope we find one with the speed to play that position because, while we call him an end, it's a

different position in the CFL," he says.

While finding Montford's heir won't be easy, Lancaster still boasts the indomitable combination of quarterback Danny McManus and slotback Darren Flutie on offense. McManus threw for the second-most yards among CFL quarterbacks last year, about 100 yards less than Winnipeg's Khari Jones. Flutie, meanwhile, put together his seventh consecutive 1,000-yard receiving season with 1,206 yards on 80 catches.

Flutie and Andrew Grigg, who had 77 receptions for 1,150 yards, will again be the go-to receivers. The 35-year-old Flutie is within striking distance of several CFL receiving records, so look for him to go out with a flurry if this is indeed his final season.

Defensively, Lancaster is looking at tackle Larry Fitzpatrick, who came on strong last year, to step his game up another notch in teaming with veteran Mike Philbrick to form a strong middle of the line. Sean Woodson and Chris Shelling are two others who have benefited from a year's experience as starting linebackers, and should help ease the loss of Jason Lamar to the NFL's Houston Texans.

## ALL-CFL TEAM

(College attended in parentheses)

### OFFENSE

C—Bryan Chiu, Montreal (Washington State)  
G—Andrew Greene, Saskatchewan (Indiana)  
G—Jamie Taras, B.C. (Western Ontario)  
T—Fred Childress, Calgary (Arkansas)  
T—Dave Mudge, Winnipeg (Michigan State)  
QB—Khari Jones, Winnipeg (Cal State Davis)  
RB—Kelvin Anderson, Calgary (Southeast Missouri State)  
RB—Mike Pringle, Montreal (Cal State Fullerton)  
SB—Terry Vaughn, Edmonton (Arizona)  
SB—Derrell Mitchell, Toronto (Arizona)  
WR—Ed Hervey, Edmonton (USC)  
WR—Alfred Jackson, B.C. (San Diego State)

### DEFENSE

DE—Joe Montford, Toronto (S.C. State)  
DE—Shonte Peoples, Saskatchewan (Michigan)  
DT—Doug Brown, Winnipeg (Simon Fraser)  
DT—Joe Fleming, Calgary (New Hampshire)  
LB—Sean Woodson, Hamilton (Jackson State)  
LB—Barrin Simpson, B.C. (Mississippi State)  
LB—Terry Ray, Edmonton (Oklahoma)  
CB—Omarr Morgan, Saskatchewan (BYU)  
CB—Wayne Shaw, Montreal (Kent State)  
DB—Shannon Garrett, Edmonton (Mississippi College)  
DB—Gerald Vaughn, Ottawa (Mississippi)  
P—Noel Prefontaine, Toronto (San Diego State)  
K—Sean Fleming, Edmonton (Wyoming)  
ST—Charles Roberts, Winnipeg (Sacramento State)





The Argos have once again set sail on a marketing mission bent on bringing fans back to the Skydome, where the club averaged only 17,000 fans per game last season and saw crowds as low as 11,000.

But fans won't be back unless the on-field product is successful. And it has been anything but since Toronto's Grey Cup championship season in 1997. Last year's 7-11 mark was the team's fourth consecutive non-winning season.

The Argos' main need—as it has been since the departure of Doug Flutie to the NFL—is at quarterback. There's hope that former Kansas State star Michael Bishop, who was unable to make the leap as a starter in the NFL, will be the one to fill that requirement. Kerwin Bell wasn't invited back, leaving perennial backup Jimmy Kemp and unproven Stanley Jackson to battle Bishop.

The other huge hole new coach Gary Etcheverry—who took over from Mike Clemons, the team's new president—must fill is at running back, where the CFL's leading rusher, Mike Jenkins, left for the Houston Texans.

At the same time, however, the Argos made the biggest free-agent acquisition the off-season by luring Joe Montford, who has been named the CFL's top defensive player in three of the last four seasons, away from the Ti-cats.

And more good news arrived for the defense with the return of Martavius Houston, who signed with the Washington Redskins last year but was cut by the team late in the season.



Yes, "Renegades." No resurrection of the Rough Riders. Some nostalgia buffs sought the return of the old moniker when the city was re-awarded a franchise. But it wasn't to be.

Coming up with a different nickname has cost the CFL the chance to regain the uniqueness of being perhaps the only league in pro sports (maybe amateur ranks, too) to have two teams with the same name—the other being the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

The Renegades, who are run by a group headed by Toronto's Brad Watters (successful operator of the Toronto Rock pro lacrosse

team), made the positive step of hiring Eric Tillman as their general manager.

The highly respected Tillman, a one-time Toronto GM and most recently a television analyst for CFL games, made another popular CFL figure, former B.C. Lions QB and head coach Joe Paopao, his coach.

After grabbing the likes of linebacker Kelly Wiltshire from Montreal and running back Sam Zanders of Toronto in the expansion draft, Tillman made his first free-agent signing a huge one when he picked up two-time CFL all-star defensive back Gerald Vaughn. He then filled the quarterback position with an experienced CFL pivot by signing free agent Dan Crowley from Edmonton.

Fullback Mark Nohra, who a year ago came close to making the Washington Redskins' roster before returning to Edmonton, also cast his lot with the Renegades, as did nine-year CFL veteran guard Val St. Germain, who took the opportunity to finally play in his hometown.

## WEST DIVISION



The Winnipeg Blue Bombers dominated the East last year with an impressive 14-4 record that included a team-record 12 consecutive victories. However, their outstanding year came to a disappointing conclusion when they lost 27-19 to the Calgary Stampeders in the Grey Cup game.

Can they dominate the West this season? The answer has to be "yes." But whether they can atone for last year's failure to win the big one is another question. Even if they should finish atop the West, getting to the Grey Cup game is another matter.

The last two Western representatives to the title bash—Calgary last year and B.C. the year before—turned in unpretentious 8-10 records during the regular season, only to raise their profile in the playoffs.

What the Bombers have going for them is a solid nucleus of talent headed by quarterback Khari Jones, who wound up winning the league's Most Outstanding Player award.

Jones will have almost all of his receiving corps intact, led by veteran Milt Stegall, who topped the 1,000-yard mark for the third consecutive year with 1,214 yards on 81 receptions.

The re-signing of Lamar McGriggs and Brian Clark leaves the linebacking contingent

intact. They'll team up with Antonio Armstrong and Ryland Wickman.

The defensive line was strengthened by the addition of 10-year veteran Daved Benefield as a free agent from B.C.



Defending Grey Cup champions is not the title most people who watched the Stampeders stumble through last season would have expected them to be wearing going into this year.

The Stamps, who had been first in the West in seven of the previous nine campaigns, finished with an 8-10 record, the first time in 14 years that they registered a sub-.500 mark. But then they went on a tear in the playoffs and wound up with the coveted silverware.

Whether they return to the top of the West standings remains to be seen, what with Winnipeg back in that grouping. But they'll almost certainly be in the thick of the battle to return to defend their title. Longtime GM and head coach Wally Buono will see to that.

Buono, however, will have to pursue that task without wide receiver Marc Boerigter, the team's outstanding receiver (48 catches for 931 yards) who was pursued by a number of NFL teams in the offseason before signing with Kansas City.

Quarterbacks Marcus Crandell still has Travis Moore (76 receptions, 1,298 yards), veteran Vince Danielsen and up-and-coming youngster Kamau Peterson to snare his passes. And when he's not throwing, he can always give the ball to Kelvin Anderson, who was second in league rushing with 1,383 yards.

Joe Fleming continues to lead the defensive line, where the loss of James Cotton to the Buffalo Bills will be felt.

Veteran placekicker Mark McLoughlin gave up on retirement plans and returns for a 14th season.



The Eskimos have cast their lot with Jason Maas as their quarterback. After losing Dan Crowley as a free agent to Ottawa, Edmonton sent Nealon Greene, who at one time was expected to be the team's QB of the future, to Saskatchewan in a trade that brought them running back Darren Davis.



# FINAL 2001 CFL STANDINGS

## EAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	OTL	Pts	PF	PA
y-WINNIPEG	14	4	0	0	28	509	383
x-HAMILTON	11	7	0	0	22	440	420
x-MONTREAL	9	9	0	0	18	454	419
TORONTO	7	11	0	1	15	432	455

## WEST DIVISION

	W	L	T	OTL	Pts	PF	PA
y-EDMONTON	9	9	0	1	19	439	463
x-CALGARY	8	10	0	1	17	478	476
x-B. COLUMBIA	8	10	0	0	16	417	445
SASKATCHEWAN	6	12	0	0	12	308	416

x-clinched playoff berth; y-clinched division title

OTL-overtime losses (Teams losing in overtime are awarded one point)

**2002 REGULAR SEASON** Runs June 25 through November 3

**2002 PLAYOFFS** DIVISIONAL SEMIFINALS: Sunday, November 10

DIVISIONAL FINALS: Sunday, November 17

**2002 GREY CUP** COMMONWEALTH STADIUM, EDMONTON, Sunday, November 24

Street & Smith's prediction: Winnipeg Blue Bombers over Montreal Alouettes

Maas, the former University of Oregon star, ousted Greene from the No. 1 QB spot last season, and wound up passing for 3,646 yards, a league-best 9.3-yard average and a 95.4 efficiency rating, also tops among starting pivots.

The acquisition of Davis, who was fourth in rushing with 1,243 yards, will fill the vacancy created by the departure of Mark Nohra to Ottawa via free agency.

The passing game will likely remain the Eskimos' modus operandi. After all, they have the two leading receivers from last year in Terry Vaughn, who had 98 catches for 1,497 yards and five TDs, and Edward Hervey (77 for 1,447 with 12 scores).

The Eskimos added to their receiving corps by signing former Dallas Cowboy Jason Tucker, who is also a serious kick-return threat.

Up front, the Eskimos lost veteran guard Val St. Germain, who took his free-agent status to return to his hometown of Ottawa and the newly-formed Renegades.

Defensively, Edmonton got better news when Western all-star defensive back Shannon Garrett re-signed and lineman Stephen Anderson inked a two-year extension.



If ever the adjective "disappointing" fits a team, it had to be in connection with last year's Lions. A year earlier they rode a late-season surge to wind up as surprise winners of the Grey Cup. But in 2001 they didn't even come close to defending that title.

They stumbled through the regular season and gained the final playoff berth only because of the greater ineptness of the Saskatchewan Roughriders. However, they made a quick exit from the postseason scene by losing the semi-final game to Calgary after blowing a half-time lead.

Heading into this season the Lions will continue to key their offense to quarterback Damon Allen, who'll turn 39 midway through the campaign. By any account, Allen is coming off the worst of his six seasons with B.C., as he completed just 53.3 percent of his 471 passes for 3,631 yards. By comparison, the previous year, he threw for more than 4,800 yards and had a 62-percent completion rate.

The big question is whether Allen, who was sidelined for a portion of last year with a back injury, has finally starting to show the wear and tear of 18 seasons as a quarterback who made running a big part of his offensive arsenal.

Allen's performance was reflected in the fact that not a single Lions receiver even came close to sniffing the 1,000-yard carrot. Alfred Jackson, who also missed a good portion of the year to injuries, was the team's leading receiver with 38 catches for 661 yards.

B.C.'s rushing game needs marked improvement this year from Robert Drummond or Sean Millington, as both of their outputs were significantly below the previous year's production. Millington gained 200 fewer yards in 2001 and, while Drummond's rushing total was similar to the previous year, he gained almost 400 fewer yards as a receiver coming out of the backfield. Like Allen, the question of age arises with Millington at 34 and Drummond, 35.

Defensively, the loss of end Daved Benefield to Winnipeg leaves a sizable gap, but with the likes of linebacker Barrin Simpson, cornerback Eric Carter and end Herman Smith, that side of the ball is not the Lions' problem area.



The Roughriders lost \$130,000 last year as they stumbled to their fourth consecutive last-place finish in the West, putting the CFL's smallest franchise more than \$2.74 million in debt.

On the bright side, the loss was some \$30,000 less than in 2000, and their six wins were one more than the previous year.

Having apparently given up on the idea that Henry Burris might be cut by the Green

Bay Packers and return to Regina, the Roughies acquired Nealon Greene from Edmonton hoping he might solve the quarterbacking problems that plagued the team last year. Marvin Graves wasn't the answer last year, and he's since been released, leaving Kevin Glenn and Jonathan Beasley to battle Greene for the starting job.

Trading for Greene cost the 'Riders running back Darren Davis, who was one of the brighter lights for coach Danny Barrett. Corey Holmes, who joined the team last year, will likely replace Davis, who rushed for 1,243 yards in 2001.

Greene, however, could wind up as the team's leading rusher, if Barrett gives him the freedom to use his speed and agility. And Greene may find himself doing a lot of running unless a couple of the team's young receivers quickly come of age. Derick Armstrong, who arrived late last year, could wind up as the main recipient of Greene's passes, along with veterans Demetris Bendross and Eric Guliford, if the latter gives up his talk of retirement.

The 'Riders lost their entire starting line-backing corps from last year, with Jackie Mitchell going to the Philadelphia Eagles, George White to Green Bay and Troy Asbell to Ottawa.

Defensive end Demetrious Maxie didn't make it with the Chicago Bears last year and returned to the 'Riders, but decided to give the NFL another go this year and signed with Buffalo. That leaves Shonte Peoples, whose 12 sacks last season were third in the league, and newcomer Ray Jacobs from Calgary to lead the defense, along with solid cornerbacks LaDoughyous McCalla and Omarr Morgan. ■



# AFC stats

## RECORDS

Points: 513, Houston (1961); Miami (1984)

TEAM	TD	TOR	TOP	TOM	XP	XPA	2PT	2PTA	FG	FGA	SAF	POINTS
Indianapolis	47	16	27	4	41	42	3	5	28	34	0	413
Oakland	46	14	27	5	43	44	1	2	26	32	0	399
New England	43	15	21	7	41	42	0	1	24	30	0	371
Pittsburgh	38	17	16	5	34	37	0	1	30	44	0	352
Miami	41	14	20	7	39	40	1	1	19	21	0	344
Denver	35	7	26	2	31	31	3	4	31	36	0	340
Tennessee	39	12	23	4	34	35	3	4	20	28	1	336
San Diego	35	13	16	6	32	32	0	3	30	43	0	332
Kansas City	34	16	17	1	27	28	3	6	27	35	1	320
N.Y. Jets	34	11	17	6	32	32	0	2	24	31	0	308
Baltimore	31	11	18	2	25	25	1	6	30	35	0	303
Seattle	34	15	15	4	33	33	1	1	20	32	1	301
Jacksonville	34	11	20	3	30	32	1	2	18	28	2	294
Cleveland	31	8	18	5	29	30	1	1	22	25	1	285
Buffalo	31	9	18	4	23	24	1	7	18	29	0	265
Cincinnati	25	11	12	2	23	24	1	1	17	28	0	226
AFC AVERAGE	36.1	12.5	19.4	4.2	32.3	33.2	1.3	2.9	24.0	31.9	0.4	324.3

## RECORDS

Completions: 404, Warren Moon, Houston (1991)

Touchdowns: 48, Dan Marino, Miami (1984)

Yards: 5,084, Dan Marino, Miami (1984)

Longest TD: 99 yards, Jim Plunkett to Cliff Branch, L.A. Raiders (1983); Stan Humphries to Tony Martin, San Diego (1994)

QB + ATTEMPTS	TEAM	ATT	COMP	PCT	YDS	AVG	TD	TO%	LONG	INT	INT%	SACKS	LOSS	RATING
Gannon, Rich	Oak	549	361	65.8	3828	6.97	27	4.9	49	9	1.6	27	155	95.5
Dilfer, Trent	Sea	122	73	59.8	1014	8.31	7	5.7	54	4	3.3	10	72	92.0
McNair, Steve	Tenn	431	264	61.3	3350	7.77	21	4.9	71t	12	2.8	37	251	90.2
Brady, Tom	NE	413	264	63.9	2843	6.88	18	4.4	91t	12	2.9	41	216	86.5
Manning, Peyton	Ind	547	343	62.7	4131	7.55	26	4.8	86t	23	4.2	29	232	84.1
Brunell, Mark	Jax	473	289	61.1	3309	7.00	19	4.0	44	13	2.7	57	387	84.1
Stewart, Kordell	Pit	442	266	60.2	3109	7.03	14	3.2	90t	11	2.5	29	175	81.7
Cunningham, Randall	Bal	89	54	60.7	573	6.44	3	3.4	30	2	2.2	12	66	81.3
Fiedler, Jay	Mia	450	273	60.7	3290	7.31	20	4.4	74t	19	4.2	27	178	80.3
Griese, Brian	Den	451	275	61.0	2827	6.27	23	5.1	65t	19	4.2	38	241	78.5
Van Pelt, Alex	Buf	307	178	58.0	2056	6.70	12	3.9	80t	11	3.6	14	73	76.4
Johnson, Rob	Buf	216	134	62.0	1465	6.78	5	2.3	61t	7	3.2	31	196	76.3
Bledsoe, Drew	NE	66	40	60.6	400	6.06	2	3.0	58	2	3.0	5	21	75.3
Testaverde, Vinny	NYJ	441	260	59.0	2752	6.24	15	3.4	40t	14	3.2	18	122	75.3
Couch, Tim	Cle	454	272	59.9	3040	6.70	17	3.7	78	21	4.6	51	353	73.1
O'Donnell, Neil	Ten	76	42	55.3	496	6.53	2	2.6	35t	2	2.6	6	58	73.1
Flutie, Doug	SD	521	294	56.4	3464	6.65	15	2.9	78	18	3.5	25	168	72.0
Green, Trent	KC	523	296	56.6	3783	7.23	17	3.3	67t	24	4.6	39	198	71.1
Grbac, Elvis	Bal	467	265	56.7	3033	6.49	15	3.2	77t	18	3.9	28	215	71.1
Hasselbeck, Matt	Sea	321	176	54.8	2023	6.30	7	2.2	64	8	2.5	38	251	70.9
Quinn, Jonathan	Jax	61	32	52.5	361	5.92	1	1.6	45	1	1.6	6	43	69.1
Kitna, Jon	Cin	581	313	53.9	3216	5.54	12	2.1	49	22	3.8	25	185	61.1

## RECORDS

Number: 108, Rick Tuten, Seattle

Average: 46.9 yards, Greg Montgomery, Houston (1992)

Longest: 98 yards, Steve O'Neal, N.Y. Jets (1969)

QB + PUNTS	TEAM	NO	YARDS	LONG	AVG	TD	BLK	OPP RET	RET YDS	IN 20	NET AVG
Turk, Matt	Mia	81	3321	77	41.0	7	0	30	136	28	37.6
Hanson, Chris	Jax	82	3577	59	43.6	12	0	38	295	24	37.1
Hentrich, Craig	Ten	85	3567	70	42.0	8	0	36	264	28	37.0
Bennett, Darren	SD	78	3308	62	42.4	4	0	32	346	25	36.9
Rouen, Tom	Den	81	3668	64	45.3	8	1	48	517	25	36.5
Feagles, Jeff	Sea	85	3730	68	43.9	7	1	43	462	26	36.4
Lechler, Shane	Oak	73	3375	65	46.2	12	1	34	502	23	35.6
Stryzinski, Dan	KC	73	2976	76	40.8	5	0	30	277	27	35.6
Gardocki, Chris	Cle	99	4249	69	42.9	9	0	52	647	25	34.6
Harris, Nick	Cin	84	3372	57	40.1	6	1	47	374	21	33.9
Moorman, Brian	Buf	80	3262	66	40.8	7	0	40	418	16	33.8
Smith, Hunter	Ind	68	3023	65	44.5	12	0	35	486	12	33.8
Richardson, Kyle	Bal	85	3309	65	38.9	10	2	33	183	29	33.6
Tupa, Tom	NYJ	67	2575	59	38.4	5	0	29	333	21	32.0

## TEAM SCORING

## RECORDS

Points: 155, Gino Cappelletti, Boston (1964)

Field Goals: 39, Olindo Mare, Miami (1999)

Extra Points: 70, Uwe von Schamann, Miami (1984)

KICKERS	TEAM	XP	XPA	FG	FGA	PTS
Vanderjagt, Mike	Ind	41	42	28	34	125
Brown, Kris	Pit	34	37	30	44	124
Elam, Jason	Den	31	31	31	36	124
Stover, Matt	Bal	25	25	30	35	115
Vinatieri, Adam	NE	41	42	24	30	113
Janikowski, Sebastian	Oak	42	42	23	28	111
Peterson, Todd	KC	27	28	27	35	108
Hall, John	NYJ	32	32	24	31	104
Mare, Olindo	Mia	39	40	19	21	96
Dawson, Phil	Cle	29	30	22	25	95
Nedney, Joe	Ten	34	35	20	28	94
Lindell, Rian	Sea	33	33	20	32	93
Richey, Wade	SD	26	26	21	32	89
Hollis, Mike	Jax	29	31	18	28	83
Rackers, Neil	Cin	23	24	17	28	74
Arians, Jake	Buf	16	17	12	21	52
Christie, Steve	SD	6	6	9	11	33
Graham, Shayne	Buf	7	7	6	8	25
Daluiso, Brad	Oak	1	2	3	4	10

## PASSING

## RECORDS

Touchdowns: 23, O.J. Simpson, Buffalo (1975); Terrell Davis, Denver (1998)

NON-KICKERS	TEAM	TD	TOR	TOP	TOM	2PT	PTS
Alexander, Shaun	Sea	16	14	2	0	0	96
Harrison, Marvin	Ind	15	0	15	0	0	90
Dillon, Corey	Cin	13	10	3	0	0	78
Smith, Antowain	NE	13	12	1	0	0	78
Smith, Rod	Den	11	0	11	0	1	68
Mason, Derrick	Ten	10	0	9	1	1	62
Brown, Tim	Oak	10	0	9	1	0	60
Holmes, Priest	KC	10	8	2	0	0	60
Mack, Stacey	Jax	10	9	1	0	0	60
Martin, Curtis	NYJ	10	10	0	0	0	60
Rhodes, Dominic	Ind	10	9	0	1	0	60
Tomlinson, LaDainian	SD	10	10	0	0	0	60
Johnson, Kevin	Cle	9	0	9	0	0	54
Rice, Jerry	Oak	9	0	9	0	0	54
Jackson, Darrell	Sea	8	0	8	0	0	48
Pollard, Marcus	Ind	8	0	8	0	0	48
Smith, Jimmy	Jax	8	0	8	0	0	48
Smith, Lamar	Mia	8	6	2	0	0	48
Dyson, Kevin	Ten	7	0	7	0	1	44
Ismael, Qadry	Bal	7	0	7	0	1	44
Brown, Troy	NE	7	0	5	2	0	42
Chambers, Chris	Mia	7	0	7	0	0	42
Coles, Laveranues	NYJ	7	0	7	0	0	42
Conway, Curtis	SD	7	1	6	0	0	42
Price, Peerless	Buf	7	0	7	0	0	42
Richardson, Tony	KC	7	7	0	0	0	42
Gonzalez, Tony	KC	6	0	6	0	1	38
McCardell, Keenan	Jax	6	0	6	0	1	38
White, Jamel	Cle	6	5	1	0	1	38
Burress, Plaxico	Pit	6	0	6	0	0	36
Clark, Desmond	Den	6	0	6	0	0	36
Crockett, Zack	Oak	6	6	0	0	0	36
Wheatley, Tyrone	Oak	6	5	1	0	0	36
Moulds, Eric	Buf	5	0	5	0	1	32
Becht, Anthony	NYJ	5	0	5	0	0	30
Brookins, Jason	Bal	5	5	0	0	0	30
George, Eddie	Ten	5	5	0	0	0	30
Graham, Jeff	SD	5	0	5	0	0	30
McNair, Steve	Ten	5	5	0	0	0	30
Patten, David	NE	5	1	4	0	0	30
Stewart, Kordell	Pit	5	5	0	0	0	30
Anderson, Mike	Den	4	4	0	0	1	26



# stats **NFC**

## RECORDS

Points: 556, Minnesota (1998)

TEAM	TD	TOR	TDP	TOM	XP	XPA	2PT	2PTA	FG	FGA	SAF	POINTS
St. Louis	62	20	37	5	58	58	2	4	23	29	0	503
San Francisco	51	16	32	3	47	47	1	3	18	25	0	409
Green Bay	47	11	32	4	44	45	1	2	20	31	1	390
Philadelphia	38	6	27	5	37	38	0	0	26	31	0	343
Chicago	37	12	20	5	34	34	1	1	26	31	1	338
New Orleans	36	8	27	1	32	32	1	4	27	31	1	333
Tampa Bay	34	17	13	4	30	30	3	4	28	35	0	324
Arizona	33	10	18	5	32	32	1	1	21	26	0	295
N.Y. Giants	32	11	19	2	29	30	2	2	23	30	0	294
Atlanta	29	9	19	1	28	28	1	1	29	37	0	291
Minnesota	35	10	23	2	29	30	3	5	15	18	0	290
Detroit	30	8	18	4	23	23	2	7	21	30	0	270
Washington	25	10	13	2	22	22	2	3	26	33	1	256
Carolina	27	9	12	6	22	23	0	4	23	28	0	253
Dallas	26	8	14	4	24	24	0	2	22	33	0	246
NFC AVERAGE	36.1	11.0	21.6	3.5	32.7	33.1	1.3	2.9	23.2	29.9	0.3	322.3

## TEAM SCORING

## RECORDS

Points: 176, Paul Hornung, Green Bay (1960)

Field Goals: 37, John Kasay, Carolina (1996)

Extra Points: 64, Jeff Wilkins, St. Louis (1999)

KICKERS	TEAM	XP	XPA	FG	FGA	PTS
Wilkins, Jeff	StL	58	58	23	29	127
Akers, David	Phi	37	38	26	31	115
Feely, Jay	Atl	28	28	29	37	115
Carney, John	NO	32	32	27	31	113
Edinger, Paul	Chi	34	34	26	31	112
Longwell, Ryan	GB	44	45	20	31	104
Cortez, Jose	SF	47	47	18	25	101
Conway, Brett	Was	22	22	26	33	100
Andersen, Morten	NYG	29	30	23	28	98
Gramatica, Martin	TB	28	28	23	29	97
Kasay, John	Car	22	23	23	28	91
Hanson, Jason	Det	23	23	21	30	86
Anderson, Gary	Min	29	30	15	18	74
Gramatica, Bill	Ari	25	25	16	20	73
Seder, Tim	Dal	12	12	11	17	51
Hilbert, Jon	Dal	12	12	11	16	45
Oglesby, Cedric	Ari	7	7	5	6	22
Brien, Doug	TB	2	2	5	6	17
Pochman, Owen	NYG	0	0	0	2	0

## RECORDS

Completions: 377, Warren Moon, Minnesota (1995)

Touchdowns: 41, Kurt Warner, St. Louis (1999)

Yards: 4,614, Neil Lomax, St. Louis (1984)

Longest TD: 99 yards, Frank Filchock to Andy Farkas, Washington (1939); George Izzo to Bobby Mitchell, Washington (1963); Karl Weetan to Pat Studstill, Detroit (1966); Sonny Jurgensen to Jerry Allen, Washington (1968); Ron Jaworski to Mike Quick, Philadelphia (1985); Brett Favre to Robert Brooks, Green Bay (1995)

## PASSING

QB + ATTEMPTS	TEAM	ATT	COMP	PCT	YDS	AVG	TD	TD%	LONG	INT	INT%	SACKS	LOSS	RATING
Warner, Kurt	StL	546	375	68.7	4830	8.85	36	6.6	65t	22	4.0	38	233	101.4
Bouman, Todd	Min	89	51	57.3	795	8.93	8	9.0	80t	4	4.5	4	27	98.3
Garcia, Jeff	SF	504	316	62.7	3538	7.02	32	6.3	61t	12	2.4	26	114	94.8
Favre, Brett	GB	510	314	61.6	3921	7.69	32	6.3	67t	15	2.9	22	151	94.1
McNabb, Donovan	Phi	493	285	57.8	3233	6.56	25	5.1	64t	12	2.4	39	273	84.3
Chandler, Chris	Atl	365	223	61.1	2847	7.80	16	4.4	94t	14	3.8	41	261	84.1
Culpepper, Daunte	Min	366	235	64.2	2612	7.14	14	3.8	57t	13	3.6	33	186	83.3
Plummer, Jake	Ari	525	304	57.9	3653	6.96	18	3.4	68t	14	2.7	29	204	79.6
Johnson, Brad	TB	559	340	60.8	3406	6.09	13	2.3	47	11	2.0	44	269	77.7
Collins, Kerry	NYG	568	327	57.6	3764	6.63	19	3.3	76	16	2.8	36	206	77.1
Batch, Charlie	Det	341	198	58.1	2392	7.01	12	3.5	76	12	3.5	33	176	76.8
Brooks, Aaron	NO	558	312	55.9	3832	6.87	26	4.7	63	22	3.9	50	330	76.4
Miller, Jim	Chi	395	228	57.7	2299	5.82	13	3.3	66t	10	2.5	11	72	74.9
Matthews, Shane	Chi	129	84	65.1	694	5.38	5	3.9	34t	6	4.7	6	48	72.3
Banks, Tony	Was	370	198	53.5	2386	6.45	10	2.7	85t	10	2.7	29	173	71.3
McMahon, Mike	Det	115	53	46.1	671	5.83	3	2.6	69	1	0.9	21	122	69.9
Carter, Quincy	Dal	176	90	51.1	1072	6.09	5	2.8	64t	7	4.0	12	56	63.0
Vick, Michael	Atl	113	50	44.2	785	6.95	2	1.8	52	3	2.7	21	113	62.7
Weinke, Chris	Car	540	293	54.3	2931	5.43	11	2.0	48	19	3.5	26	177	62.0
Wright, Anthony	Dal	98	48	49.0	529	5.40	5	5.1	80t	5	5.1	5	30	61.1

## RECORDS

Number: 114, Bob Parsons, Chicago (1981)

Average: 51.4 yards, Sammy Baugh, Washington (1940)

Longest: 94 yards, Joe Lintzenich, Chicago (1931)

43+ PUNTS	TEAM	NO	YARDS	LONG	AVG	TB	BLK	OPP RET	RET YDS	IN 20	NET AVG
Sauerbrun, Todd	Car	93	4419	73	47.5	17	1	42	425	35	38.9
Maynard, Brad	Chi	87	3709	60	42.6	8	0	45	327	36	37.0
Bidwell, Josh	GB	82	3485	68	42.5	10	0	34	288	21	36.5
Landeta, Sean	Phi	97	4221	64	43.5	10	0	56	488	26	36.4
Johnson, Lee	NE-Min	49	2028	76	41.4	6	0	18	129	12	36.3
Mohr, Chris	Atl	69	2680	55	38.8	3	0	17	130	25	36.1
Gowin, Toby	NO	76	3180	62	41.8	7	0	36	316	24	35.8
Jett, John	Det	58	2512	62	43.3	6	0	30	332	16	35.5
Williams, Rodney	NYG	91	3905	90	42.9	8	0	43	521	25	35.4
Baker, Jason	SF	69	2813	64	40.8	4	0	34	290	21	35.4
Baker, John	StL	43	1809	58	42.1	7	0	17	167	9	34.9
Barker, Bryan	Was	90	3747	59	41.6	9	0	44	434	27	34.8
Royals, Mark	TB	83	3382	61	40.7	8	0	44	380	26	34.2
Player, Scott	Ari	67	2779	58	41.5	7	0	35	377	17	33.8
Berger, Mitch	Min	47	2046	67	43.5	10	0	25	302	10	32.9
Knorr, Micah	Dal	78	3135	57	40.2	6	3	38	493	25	31.1

## PUNTING

## RECORDS

Touchdowns: 26, Marshall Faulk, St. Louis (2000)

NON-KICKERS	TEAM	TD	TOR	TDP	TOM	2PT	PTS
Faulk, Marshall	StL	21	12	9	0	1	128
Owens, Terrell	SF	16	0	16	0	0	96
Alstott, Mike	TB	11	10	1	0	2	70
Green, Ahman	GB	11	9	2	0	0	66
Moss, Randy	Min	10	0	10	0	0	60
Franks, Bubba	GB	9	0	9	0	0	54
Horn, Joe	NO	9	0	9	0	0	54
Schroeder, Bill	GB	9	0	9	0	0	54
Booker, Marty	Chi	8	0	8	0	0	48
Boston, David	Ari	8	0	8	0	0	48
Thrash, James	Phi	8	0	8	0	0	48
Dayne, Ron	NYG	7	7	0	0	1	44
Thomas, Anthony	Chi	7	7	0	0	1	44
Holt, Torry	StL	7	0	7	0	0	42
Sloan, David	Det	7	0	7	0	0	42
Stokes, J.J.	SF	7	0	7	0	0	42
Williams, Ricky	NO	7	6	1	0	0	42
Freeman, Antonio	GB	6	0	6	0	1	38
Bruce, Isaac	StL	6	0	6	0	0	36
Canidate, Trung	StL	6	6	0	0	0	36
Carter, Cris	Min	6	0	6	0	0	36
Dunn, Warrick	TB	6	3	3	0	0	36
Hilliard, Ike	NYG	6	0	6	0	0	36
Lewis, Chad	Phi	6	0	6	0	0	36
Smith, Maurice	Atl	6	5	1	0	0	36
Weinke, Chris	Car	6	6	0	0	0	36
Culpepper, Daunte	Min	5	5	0	0	2	34
Davis, Stephen	Was	5	5	0	0	1	32
Jackson, Willie	NO	5	0	5	0	1	32
Proehl, Ricky	StL	5	0	5	0	1	32
Barlow, Kevan	SF	5	4	1	0	0	30
Conwell, Ernie	StL	5	1	4	0	0	30
Garcia, Jeff	SF	5	5	0	0	0	30
Hearst, Garrison	SF	5	4	1	0	0	30
Jones, Thomas	Ari	5	5	0	0	0	30
Pittman, Michael	Ari	5	5	0	0	0	30
Toomer, Amani	NYG	5	0	5	0	0	30
Walls, Wesley	Car	5	0	5	0	0	30
Barber, Tiki	NYG	4	4	0	0	1	26
Warren, Lamont	Det	4	3	1	0	1	26
Christian, Bob	Atl	4	2	2	0	0	24
Cleeland, Cameron	NO	4	0	4	0	0	24



# AFC stats

Carswell, Dwayne	Den	4	0	4	0	1	26
Bettis, Jerome	Pit	4	4	0	0	0	24
Centers, Larry	Buf	4	2	2	0	0	24
Fiedler, Jay	Mia	4	4	0	0	0	24
Fuamatu-Ma'afala, Chris	Pit	4	3	1	0	0	24
Henry, Travis	Buf	4	4	0	0	0	24
Jones, Freddie	SD	4	0	4	0	0	24
Manning, Peyton	Ind	4	4	0	0	0	24
Minor, Travis	Mia	4	2	1	1	0	24
Ward, Hines	Pit	4	0	4	0	0	24
Wiggins, Jermaine	NE	4	0	4	0	0	24
Wycheck, Frank	Ten	4	0	4	0	0	24
James, Edgerrin	Ind	3	3	0	0	1	20
McKnight, James	Mia	3	0	3	0	1	20
Alexander, Derrick	KC	3	0	3	0	0	18
Allen, Terry	Bal	3	3	0	0	0	18
Edwards, Marc	NE	3	1	2	0	0	18
Faulk, Kevin	NE	3	1	2	0	0	18
Gadsden, Oronde	Mia	3	0	3	0	0	18
Garner, Charlie	Oak	3	1	2	0	0	18
Hape, Patrick	Den	3	0	3	0	0	18
Joseph, Elvis	Jax	3	0	2	1	0	18
Riemersma, Jay	Buf	3	0	3	0	0	18
Taylor, Travis	Bal	3	0	3	0	0	18
Williams, Roland	Oak	3	0	3	0	0	18
Dugans, Ron	Cin	2	0	2	0	1	14
Gannon, Rich	Oak	2	2	0	0	1	14
Anderson, Richie	NYJ	2	0	2	0	0	12
Ayanbadejo, Obafemi	Balt	2	1	1	0	0	12
Brady, Kyle	Jax	2	0	2	0	0	12
Bryson, Shawn	Buf	2	2	0	0	0	12
Clements, Nate	Buf	2	0	0	2	0	12
Dorsett, Anthony	Oak	2	0	0	2	0	12
Dwight, Tim	SD	2	1	0	1	0	12
Edwards, Troy	Pit	2	1	0	1	0	12
Green, Mike	Ten	2	1	1	0	0	12
Jackson, James	Cle	2	2	0	0	0	12
Jenkins, Ronney	SD	2	0	0	2	0	12
Jordan, LaMont	NYJ	2	1	1	0	0	12
Konrad, Rob	Mia	2	1	1	0	0	12
Law, Ty	NE	2	0	0	2	0	12
Marion, Brock	Mia	2	0	0	2	0	12
Mili, Itula	Sea	2	0	2	0	0	12
Mitchell, Donald	Ten	2	0	0	2	0	12
Morgan, Quincy	Cle	2	0	2	0	0	12
Parker, Larry	KC	2	0	2	0	0	12
Pathon, Jerome	Ind	2	0	2	0	0	12
Ritchie, Jon	Oak	2	0	2	0	0	12
Santiago, O.J.	Cle	2	0	2	0	0	12
Scott, Chad	Pit	2	0	0	2	0	12
Scott, Darnay	Cin	2	0	2	0	0	12
Sellers, Mike	Cle	2	0	2	0	0	12
Sharpe, Shannon	Bal	2	0	2	0	0	12
Shaw, Bobby	Pit	2	0	2	0	0	12
Smith, Otis	NE	2	0	0	2	0	12
Spoon, Brandon	Buf	2	0	0	2	0	12
Stokley, Brandon	Bal	2	0	2	0	0	12
Weaver, Jed	Mia	2	0	2	0	0	12
Zereoue, Amos	Pit	2	1	1	0	0	12
Bennett, Drew	Ten	1	0	1	0	1	8
Dilger, Ken	Ind	1	0	1	0	1	8
Fauria, Christian	Sea	1	0	1	0	1	8
Kennison, Eddie	KC	1	0	1	0	1	8
Ricks, Mikhael	KC	1	0	1	0	0	8
Abraham, John	NYJ	1	0	0	1	0	6
Allen, Eric	Oak	1	0	0	1	0	6
Bannister, Alex	Sea	1	0	0	1	0	6
Battles, Ainsley	Jax	1	0	0	1	0	6
Beasley, Aaron	Jax	1	0	0	1	0	6
Bowers, R.J.	Pit	1	1	0	0	0	6
Brigham, Jeremy	Oak	1	0	1	0	0	6
Brown, Courtney	Cle	1	0	0	1	0	6
Brunell, Mark	Jax	1	1	0	0	0	6
Buckley, Terrell	NE	1	0	0	1	0	6
Burris, Jeff	Ind	1	0	0	1	0	6
Bush, Devin	Cle	1	0	0	1	0	6
Charlton, Ike	Sea	1	0	0	1	0	6
Chrbet, Wayne	NYJ	1	0	1	0	0	6
Cloud, Mike	KC	1	1	0	0	0	6
Cunningham, Randall	Bal	1	1	0	0	0	6

Cushing, Matt	Pit	1	0	1	0	0	6
Dawson, JaJuan	Cle	1	0	1	0	0	6
Dearth, James	NYJ	1	0	1	0	0	6
Dunn, Jason	KC	1	0	1	0	0	6
Farmer, Danny	Cin	1	0	1	0	0	6
Flutie, Doug	SD	1	1	0	0	0	6
Frerotte, Gus	Den	1	1	0	0	0	6
Fuller, Corey	Cle	1	0	0	1	0	6
Gary, Olandis	Den	1	1	0	0	0	6
Gash, Sam	Bal	1	0	1	0	0	6
Gay, Benjamin	Cle	1	1	0	0	0	6
Gildon, Jason	Pit	1	0	0	1	0	6
Glenn, Aaron	NYJ	1	0	0	1	0	6
Glenn, Jason	NYJ	1	0	0	1	0	6
Glenn, Terry	NE	1	0	1	0	0	6
Grbac, Elvis	Bal	1	1	0	0	0	6
Green, Victor	NYJ	1	0	0	1	0	6
Griese, Brian	Den	1	1	0	0	0	6
Harris, Derrick	SD	1	0	0	1	0	6
Hayes, Chris	NYJ	1	0	0	1	0	6
Heap, Todd	Bal	1	0	1	0	0	6
Heiden, Steve	SD	1	0	1	0	0	6
Henry, Anthony	Cle	1	0	0	1	0	6
Hicks, Skip	Ten	1	1	0	0	0	6
Insley, Trevor	Ind	1	0	1	0	0	6
Jackson, Sheldon	Buf	1	0	1	0	0	6
Johnson, Chad	Cin	1	0	1	0	0	6
Johnson, Charles	NE	1	0	1	0	0	6
Johnson, Patrick	Bal	1	0	1	0	0	6
Johnson, Raylee	SD	1	0	0	1	0	6
Johnson, Rob	Buf	1	1	0	0	0	6
Jones, Damon	Jax	1	0	1	0	0	6
Kirby, Terry	Ten	1	0	1	0	0	6
Kitna, Jon	Oak	1	0	0	1	0	6
Kreider, Dan	Cin	1	1	0	0	0	6
Lewis, Mo	Pit	1	1	0	0	0	6
Lucas, Ray	NYJ	1	0	0	1	0	6
Maddox, Tommy	Mia	1	1	0	0	0	6
McCaffrey, Ed	Pit	1	1	0	0	0	6
McCutcheon, Daylon	Den	1	0	1	0	0	6
McGee, Tony	Cle	1	0	0	1	0	6
Minnis, Snoop	Cin	1	0	1	0	0	6
Mixon, Kenny	KC	1	0	1	0	0	6
Moreau, Frank	Mia	1	0	0	1	0	6
Myers, Bobby	Jax	1	1	0	0	0	6
Neal, Lorenzo	Ten	1	0	0	1	0	6
Nworie, Chukie	Cin	1	0	1	0	0	6
Ogden, Jeff	Ind	1	0	0	1	0	6
O'Hara, Shaun	Mia	1	0	1	0	0	6
O'Neal, Deltha	Cle	1	0	1	0	0	6
Pass, Patrick	Den	1	0	0	1	0	6
Perry, Jason	NE	1	0	1	0	0	6
Randle, John	SD	1	0	0	1	0	6
Robinson, Koren	Sea	1	0	0	1	0	6
Sharper, Jamie	Sea	1	0	1	0	0	6
Simmons, Brian	Bal	1	0	0	1	0	6
Spikes, Takeo	Cin	1	0	0	1	0	6
Surtain, Patrick	Mia	1	0	0	1	0	6
Taylor, Jason	Mia	1	0	0	1	0	6
Thomas, Chris	KC	1	0	1	0	0	6
Thomas, Zach	Mia	1	0	0	1	0	6
Tongue, Reggie	Sea	1	0	0	1	0	6
Tuman, Jerame	Pit	1	0	1	0	0	6
Walker, Denard	Den	1	0	1	0	0	6
Warfield, Eric	KC	1	0	0	1	0	6
Warrick, Peter	Cin	1	0	1	0	0	6
Washington, Dewayne	Pit	1	0	0	1	0	6
Watters, Ricky	Sea	1	1	0	0	0	6
Wilkins, Terrence	Ind	1	0	0	1	0	6
Williams, James	Sea	1	0	1	0	0	6
Woodson, Rod	Bal	1	0	1	0	0	6

## RECORDS

**Carries:** 403, Eddie George, Tennessee (2000)  
**Yards:** 2,008, Terrell Davis, Denver (1998)  
**Touchdowns:** 21, Terrell Davis, Denver (1998)

100+ YARDS	TEAM	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Holmes, Priest	KC	327	1555	4.8	41	8
Martin, Curtis	NYJ	333	1513	4.5	47	10
Alexander, Shaun	Sea	309	1318	4.3	88t	14

Dillon, Corey	Cin	340	1315	3.9	96t	10
Tomlinson, LaDainian	SD	339	1236	3.6	54	10
Smith, Antowain	NE	287	1157	4.0	44	12
Rhodes, Dominic	Ind	233	1104	4.7	77t	9
Bettis, Jerome	Pit	225	1072	4.8	48	4
Smith, Lamar	Mia	313	968	3.1	25	6
George, Eddie	Ten	315	939	3.0	27	5
Mack, Stacey	Jax	213	877	4.1	54	9
Garner, Charlie	Oak	211	839	4.0	38	1
Henry, Travis	Buf	213	729	3.4	25	4
Davis, Terrell	Den	167	701	4.2	57	0
Anderson, Mike	Den	175	678	3.9	62t	4
James, Edgerrin	Ind	151	662	4.4	29t	3
Allen, Terry	Bal	168	658	3.9	26	3
Jackson, James	Cle	195	554	2.8	22	2
Brookins, Jason	Bal	151	551	3.6	25	5
Stewart, Kordell	Pit	96	537	5.6	48t	5
Fuamatu-Ma'afala, Chris	Pit	120	453	3.8	46	3
White, Jamel	Cle	126	443	3.5	51	5
Zereoue, Amos	Pit	85	441	5.2	32	1
McNair, Steve	Ten	75	414	5.5	24	5
Bryson, Shawn	Buf	80	341	4.3	68t	2
Hicks, Skip	Ten	56	341	6.1	51	1
Fiedler, Jay	Mia	73	321	4.4	26	4
Watters, Ricky	Sea	72	318	4.4	40	1
Joseph, Elvis	Jax	68	294	4.3	27	0
Jordan, LaMont	NYJ	39	292	7.5	46t	1
Williams, Moe	Bal	65	291	4.5	55	0
Minor, Travis	Mia	59	281	4.8	56t	2
Wheatley, Tyronne	Oak	88	276	3.1	22	5
Johnson, Rob	Buf	36	241	6.7	23	1
Bennett, Brandon	Cin	50	232	4.6	36	0
Gannon, Rich	Oak	63	231	3.7	17	2
Gary, Olandis	Den	57	228	4.0	29	1
Brunell, Mark	Jax	39	224	5.7	38	1
Flutie, Doug	SD	53	192	3.6	16	1
Richardson, Tony	KC	66	191	2.9	19	7
Ayanbadejo, Obafemi	Bal	46	173	3.8	17	1
Griese, Brian	Den	50	173	3.5	24	1
Gay, Benjamin	Cle	51	172	3.4	40	1
Faulk, Kevin	NE	41	169	4.1	24	1
Centers, Larry	Buf	34	160	4.7	50	2
Green, Trent	KC	35	158	4.5	16	0
Manning, Peyton	Ind	35	157	4.5	33t	4
Crockett, Zack	Oak	57	145	2.5	10	6
Edwards, Marc	NE	51	141	2.8	14	1
Hasselbeck, Matt	Sea	40	141	3.5	17	0
Couch, Tim	Cle	38	128	3.4	15	0
Redmond, J.R.	NE	35	119	3.4	16	0
Conway, Curtis	SD	7	116	16.6	67t	1
Taylor, Fred	Jax	30	116	3.9	24	0
Coles, Laveranues	NYJ	10	108	10.8	20	0
Fletcher, Terrell	SD	29	107	3.7	16	0
Anderson, Richie	NYJ	26	102	3.9	12	0

## RECORDS

**Receptions:** 116, Jimmy Smith, Jacksonville (1999)  
**Yards:** 1,746, Charley Hennigan, Houston (1961)  
**Touchdowns:** 18, Mark Clayton, Miami (1984)

15+ CATCHES	TEAM	NO	YARDS</
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Gardner, Rod	Was	4	0	4	0	0	24
Johnson, Leon	Chi	4	4	0	0	0	24
Moore, Dave	TB	4	0	4	0	0	24
Morton, Johnnie	Det	4	0	4	0	0	24
Pinkston, Todd	Phi	4	0	4	0	0	24
Staley, Duce	Phi	4	2	2	0	0	24
Terrell, David	Chi	4	0	4	0	0	24
Westbrook, Michael	Was	4	0	4	0	0	24
Johnson, Eric	SF	3	0	3	0	1	20
Bennett, Michael	Min	3	2	1	0	0	18
Carter, Ki-Jana	Was	3	3	0	0	0	18
Chamberlain, Byron	Min	3	0	3	0	0	18
Crumpler, Alge	Atl	3	0	3	0	0	18
Finneran, Brian	Atl	3	0	3	0	0	18
Galloway, Joey	Dal	3	0	3	0	0	18
Hakim, Az-Zahir	StL	3	0	3	0	0	18
Huntley, Richard	Car	3	2	1	0	0	18
Jackson, Terry	SF	3	1	2	0	0	18
Jenkins, MarTay	Ari	3	0	3	0	0	18
Johnson, Brad	TB	3	3	0	0	0	18
Jurevicius, Joe	NYG	3	0	3	0	0	18
Martin, Tony	Atl	3	0	3	0	0	18
Schlesinger, Cory	Det	3	3	0	0	0	18
Smith, Emmitt	Dal	3	3	0	0	0	18
Smith, Steve	Car	3	0	0	3	0	18
Williams, Boo	NO	3	0	3	0	0	18
Jefferson, Shawn	Atl	2	0	2	0	1	14
Allen, James	Chi	2	1	1	0	0	12
Anderson, Jamal	Atl	2	1	1	0	0	12
Banks, Tony	Was	2	2	0	0	0	12
Baxter, Fred	Chi	2	0	2	0	0	12
Bly, Dre'	StL	2	0	0	2	0	12
Bradford, Corey	GB	2	0	2	0	0	12
Bronson, Zack	SF	2	0	0	2	0	12
Brown, Mike	Chi	2	0	0	2	0	12
Buckhalter, Correll	Phi	2	2	0	0	0	12
Chiaverini, Darrin	Dal	2	0	2	0	0	12
Coakley, Dexter	Dal	2	0	0	2	0	12
Connell, Albert	NO	2	0	2	0	0	12
Crowell, Germane	Det	2	0	2	0	0	12
Douglas, Dameane	Phi	2	0	2	0	0	12
Driver, Donald	GB	2	1	1	0	0	12
Flemister, Zeron	Was	2	0	2	0	0	12
Hambrick, Troy	Dal	2	2	0	0	0	12
Hardy, Terry	Ari	2	0	2	0	0	12
Harris, Jackie	Dal	2	0	2	0	0	12
Hayes, Donald	Car	2	0	2	0	0	12
Ismail, Raghib	Dal	2	0	2	0	0	12
Mangum, Kris	Car	2	0	2	0	0	12
Martin, Cecil	Phi	2	0	2	0	0	12
Mathis, Terance	Atl	2	0	2	0	0	12
McAllister, Deuce	NO	2	1	1	0	0	12
McKinnon, Ronald	Ari	2	0	0	2	0	12
McNabb, Donovan	Phi	2	2	0	0	0	12
Mitchell, Tywan	Ari	2	0	2	0	0	12
Prentice, Travis	Min	2	2	0	0	0	12
Rasby, Walter	Was	2	0	2	0	0	12
Rivers, Marcellus	NYG	2	0	2	0	0	12
Robinson, Marcus	Chi	2	0	2	0	0	12
Sanders, Frank	Ari	2	0	2	0	0	12
Smith, Terrelle	NO	2	0	2	0	0	12
Stecker, Aaron	TB	2	1	1	0	0	12
Stewart, James	Det	2	1	1	0	0	12
Swinton, Reggie	Dal	2	0	1	1	0	12
Urlacher, Brian	Chi	2	0	1	1	0	12
Williams, Aeneas	StL	2	0	0	2	0	12
Williams, Karl	TB	2	0	1	1	0	12
McMahon, Mike	Det	1	1	0	0	1	8
Reed, Jake	Min	1	0	1	0	1	8
Anderson, Rashard	Car	1	0	0	1	0	6
Anderson, Scotty	Det	1	0	1	0	0	6
Arrington, LaVar	Was	1	0	0	1	0	6
Bailey, Robert	Det	1	0	0	1	0	6
Barber, Ronde	TB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Bartrum, Mike	Phi	1	0	1	0	0	6
Bates, D'Wayne	Chi	1	0	1	0	0	6
Beasley, Fred	SF	1	1	0	0	0	6
Biakabutuka, Tim	Car	1	1	0	0	0	6
Brooks, Aaron	NO	1	1	0	0	0	6
Byrd, Isaac	Car	1	0	1	0	0	6
Campbell, Dan	NYG	1	0	1	0	0	6
Carter, Quincy	Dal	1	1	0	0	0	6
Carter, Tyrone	Min	1	0	0	1	0	6

Chapman, Doug	Min	1	0	1	0	0	6
Comella, Greg	NYG	1	0	1	0	0	6
Crawford, Casey	Car	1	0	0	1	0	6
Dawkins, Brian	Phi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Dixon, Ron	NYG	1	0	1	0	0	6
Droughins, Reuben	Det	1	0	1	0	0	6
Edwards, Mario	Dal	1	0	0	1	0	6
Evans, Doug	Car	1	0	0	1	0	6
Fair, Terry	Det	1	0	0	1	0	6
Favre, Brett	GB	1	1	0	0	0	6
Green, Jacques	TB	1	0	1	0	0	6
Hall, James	Det	1	0	0	1	0	6
Hampton, William	Phi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Harris, Walt	Chi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Hodgins, James	StL	1	0	1	0	0	6
Holcombe, Robert	StL	1	1	0	0	0	6
Howard, Desmond	Det	1	0	1	0	0	6
Johnson, Keyshawn	TB	1	0	1	0	0	6
Jordan, Andrew	Min	1	0	1	0	0	6
Kleinsasser, Jimmy	Min	1	1	0	0	0	6
Kozlowski, Brian	Atl	1	0	1	0	0	6
Lee, Charles	GB	1	0	1	0	0	6
Levens, Dorsey	GB	1	0	1	0	0	6
Lucky, Mike	Dal	1	0	1	0	0	6
Lyght, Todd	Det	1	0	0	1	0	6
Makovicka, Joel	Ari	1	0	1	0	0	6
Manumaleuna, Brandon	StL	1	0	1	0	0	6
Martin, David	GB	1	0	1	0	0	6
McClellan, Dexter	StL	1	0	0	1	0	6
McGarity, Wane	Dal	1	0	1	0	0	6
McKenzie, Mike	GB	1	0	0	1	0	6
McQuarters, R.W.	Chi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Mealey, Rondell	GB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Metcalfe, Eric	Was	1	0	0	1	0	6
Mitchell, Brian	Phi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Mitchell, Freddie	Phi	1	0	1	0	0	6
Moore, Damon	Phi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Muhammad, Muhsin	Car	1	0	1	0	0	6
Murphy, Frank	TB	1	0	1	0	0	6
Oldham, Chris	NO	1	0	0	1	0	6
Peterson, Julian	SF	1	0	0	1	0	6
Quarles, Shelton	TB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Rackley, Derek	Atl	1	0	1	0	0	6
Robinson, Jeff	StL	1	0	1	0	0	6
Rossum, Allen	GB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Sehorn, Jason	NYG	1	0	0	1	0	6
Shelton, Daimon	Chi	1	0	1	0	0	6
Smith, Paul	SF	1	1	0	0	0	6
Stewart, Tony	Phi	1	0	1	0	0	6
Stoerner, Clint	Dal	1	1	0	0	0	6
Strahan, Michael	NYG	1	0	0	1	0	6
Streets, Tai	SF	1	0	1	0	0	6
Swift, Justin	SF	1	0	1	0	0	6
Thomas, Robert	Dal	1	0	1	0	0	6
Thompson, Derrius	Was	1	0	1	0	0	6
Trotter, Jeremiah	Phi	1	0	0	1	0	6
Vanden Bosch, Kyle	Ari	1	0	0	1	0	6
Vaughn, Darrick	Atl	1	0	0	1	0	6
Vick, Michael	Atl	1	1	0	0	0	6
Wakefield, Fred	Ari	1	0	0	1	0	6
Wiley, Michael	Dal	1	0	1	0	0	6
Williams, Tyrone	GB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Wilson, Adrian	Ari	1	0	0	1	0	6
Wong, Kailee	Min	1	0	0	1	0	6
Yoder, Todd	TB	1	0	0	1	0	6
Bennett, Donnell	Was	0	0	0	0	1	2
King, Shaun	TB	0	0	0	0	1	2

## RECORDS

**Carries:** 410, Jamal Anderson, Atlanta (1998)  
**Yards:** 2,105, Eric Dickerson, LA Rams (1984)  
**Touchdowns:** 25, Emmitt Smith, Dallas (1995)

## 39+ YARDS

PLAYER	TEAM	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Davis, Stephen	Was	356	1432	4.0	32	5
Green, Ahman	GB	304	1387	4.6	83t	9
Faulk, Marshall	StL	260	1382	5.3	71t	12
Williams, Ricky	NO	313	1245	4.0	46	6
Hearst, Garrison	SF	252	1206	4.8	43t	4
Thomas, Anthony	Chi	278	1183	4.3	46	7
Smith, Emmitt	Dal	261	1021	3.9	44	3
Barber, Tiki	NYG	166	865	5.2	36	4

## RUSHING

# stats NFC

Pittman, Michael	Ari	241	846	3.5	42	5
Smith, Maurice	Atl	237	760	3.2	58	5
Dayne, Ron	NYG	180	690	3.8	61	7
Stewart, James	Det	143	685	4.8	38	1
Bennett, Michael	Min	172	682	4.0	31t	2
Alstott, Mike	TB	165	680	4.1	39t	10
Huntley, Richard	Car	165	665	4.0	25	2
Staley, Duce	Phi	166	604	3.6	44t	2
Buckhalter, Correll	Phi	129	586	4.5	48	2
Hambrick, Troy	Dal	113	579	5.1	80	2
Barlow, Kevan	SF	125	512	4.1	25	4
McNabb, Donovan	Phi	82	482	5.9	33	2
Allen, James	Chi	135	469	3.5	19	1
Dunn, Warrick	TB	158	447	2.8	21t	3
Canidate, Trung	StL	78	441	5.7	45	6
Culpepper, Daunte	Min	71	416	5.9	34	5
Jones, Thomas	Ari	112	380	3.4	21	5
Brooks, Aaron	NO	80	358	4.5	26	1
Carter, Ki-Jana	Was	63	308	4.9	30	3
Vick, Michael	Atl	31	289	9.3	35	1
Christian, Bob	Atl	44	284	6.5	53	2
Garcia, Jeff	SF	72	254	3.5	25	5
Wiley, Michael	Dal	34	247	7.3	58	0
Biakabutuka, Tim	Car	53	230	4.3	27	1
Goings, Nick	Car	66	197	3.0	16	0
Chapman, Doug	Min	63	195	3.1	19	0
Warren, Lamont	Det	61	191	3.1	34	3
Anderson, Jamal	Atl	55	190	3.5	14	1
Levens, Dorsey	GB	44	165	3.8	40	0
Plummer, Jake	Ari	35	163	4.7	21	0
Schlesinger, Cory	Det	47	154	3.3	26	3
Banks, Tony	Was	47	152	3.2	17	2
Carter, Quincy	Dal	45	150	3.3	17	1
McMahon, Mike	Det	27	145	5.4	22	1
Jackson, Terry	SF	22	138	6.3	15	1
Weinke, Chris	Car	37	128	3.5	23	6
Thomas, Rodney	Atl	37	126	3.4	21	0
Johnson, Brad	TB	39	120	3.1	21	3
Johnson, Leon	Chi	20	99	5.0	34	4
McAllister, Deuce	NO	16	91	5.7	54t	1
Washington, Damon	NYG	28	89	3.2	22	0
Chandler, Chris	Atl	25	84	3.4	22	0
Beasley, Fred	SF	23	73	3.2	16	1
Collins, Kerry	NYG	39	73	1.9	11	0
Droughins, Reuben	Det	30	72	2.4	15	0
Kleinsasser, Jimmy	Min	23	72	3.1	11	1
Stecker, Aaron	TB	24	72	3.0	17	1
Hoover, Brad	Car	17	71	4.2	10	0
Morrow, Harold	Min	12	67	5.6	15	0
Bouman, Todd	Min	9	61	6.8	21	0
Wynn, Spurgeon	Min	8	61	7.6	14	0
Warner, Kurt	StL	28	60	2.1	23	0



# AFC stats

Wycheck, Frank	Ten	60	672	11.2	30	4
Coles, Laveranues	NYJ	59	868	14.7	40t	7
Tomlinson, LaDainian	SD	59	367	6.2	27	0
Scott, Darnay	Cin	57	819	14.4	49	2
Chrebet, Wayne	NYJ	56	750	13.4	36	1
Price, Peerless	Buf	55	895	16.3	70t	7
McKnight, James	Mia	55	684	12.4	40	3
Gadsden, Oronde	Mia	55	674	12.3	61	3
Dyson, Kevin	Ten	54	825	15.3	68t	7
Riemersma, Jay	Buf	53	590	11.1	36	3
Martin, Curtis	NYJ	53	320	6.0	27	0
Graham, Jeff	SD	52	811	15.6	61t	5
Patten, David	NE	51	749	14.7	91t	4
Clark, Desmond	Den	51	566	11.1	39	6
Chambers, Chris	Mia	48	883	18.4	74t	7
Pollard, Marcus	Ind	47	739	15.7	86t	8
White, Jamel	Cle	44	418	9.5	45	1
Alexander, Shaun	Sea	44	343	7.8	28t	2
Taylor, Travis	Bal	42	560	13.3	63	3
Anderson, Richie	NYJ	40	252	6.3	22	2
Robinson, Koren	Sea	39	536	13.7	42	1
George, Eddie	Ten	37	279	7.5	25	0
Brady, Kyle	Jax	36	386	10.7	20t	2
Becht, Anthony	NYJ	36	321	8.9	24	5
Jones, Freddie	SD	35	388	11.1	34	4
Wilkins, Terrence	Ind	34	332	9.8	28	0
Carswell, Dwayne	Den	34	299	8.8	25	4
Dillon, Corey	Cin	34	228	6.7	17	3
Rhodes, Dominic	Ind	34	224	6.6	19	0
Minnis, Snoop	KC	33	511	15.5	56	1
Williams, Roland	Oak	33	298	9.0	49	3
Dilger, Ken	Ind	32	343	10.7	44	1
Kennison, Eddie	Den-KC	31	491	15.8	65	1
Morgan, Quincy	Cle	30	432	14.4	78	2
Richardson, Tony	KC	30	265	8.8	47	0
Smith, Lamar	Mia	30	234	7.8	65t	2
Faulk, Kevin	NE	30	189	6.3	28	2
Engram, Bobby	Sea	29	400	13.8	31	0
Minor, Travis	Mia	29	263	9.1	29	1
Johnson, Chad	Cin	28	329	11.8	28	1
Dugans, Ron	Cin	28	251	9.0	31	2
Alexander, Derrick	KC	27	470	17.4	46	3
Wayne, Reggie	Ind	27	345	12.8	43	0
Dwight, Tim	SD	25	406	16.2	78	0
Kinney, Erron	Ten	25	263	10.5	24	1
Edwards, Marc	NE	25	166	6.6	17	2
Shaw, Bobby	Pit	24	409	17.0	90t	2
Stokley, Brandon	Bal	24	344	14.3	46	2
Pathon, Jerome	Ind	24	330	13.8	60t	2
Bennett, Drew	Ten	24	329	13.7	50	1
James, Edgerrin	Ind	24	193	8.0	27	0
Ayanbadejo, Obafemi	Bal	24	121	5.0	18	1
Williams, Moe	Bal	23	210	9.1	46	0
Fletcher, Terrell	SD	23	184	8.0	27	0
Mack, Stacey	Jax	23	165	7.2	25	1
Dawson, JaJuan	Cle	22	281	12.8	44	1
Henry, Travis	Buf	22	179	8.1	40	0
Houshmandzadeh, T.J.	Cin	21	228	10.9	23	0
Ward, Dedric	Mia	21	209	10.0	20	0
Fauria, Christian	Sea	21	188	9.0	30	1
Dawkins, Sean	Jax	20	234	11.7	28	0
Bennett, Brandon	Cin	20	150	7.5	15	0
Edwards, Troy	Pit	19	283	14.9	57	0
Thomas, Chris	KC	19	247	13.0	28	1
Porter, Jerry	Oak	19	220	11.6	21	0
Smith, Antowain	NE	19	192	10.1	41t	1
Ritchie, Jon	Oak	19	154	8.1	17	2
Neal, Lorenzo	Cin	19	101	5.3	12	1
Ricks, Mikhael	KC	18	252	14.0	40	1
Weaver, Jed	Mia	18	215	11.9	27	2
Northcutt, Dennis	Cle	18	211	11.7	26	0
Joseph, Elvis	Jax	18	183	10.2	29t	2
Santiago, O.J.	Cle	17	153	9.0	27	2
Strong, Mack	Sea	17	141	8.3	35	0
Allen, Terry	Bal	17	68	4.0	11	0
Heap, Todd	Bal	16	206	12.9	24t	1
Fuamatu-Ma'afala, Chris	Pit	16	127	7.9	54	1
Farmer, Danny	Cin	15	228	15.2	27	1
Parker, Larry	KC	15	199	13.3	44	2
Hape, Patrick	Den	15	96	6.4	25	3

## RECORDS

Number: 13, Lester Hayes, Oakland (1980)

Return Yards: 349, Charlie McNeil, San Diego (1961)

Longest TD Return: 103 yards, Vencie Glenn, San Diego (1987);

Louis Oliver, Miami (1992)

Touchdowns: 4, Ken Houston, Houston (1971); Jim Kearney, Kansas City (1972)

1+ INTERCEPTIONS	TEAM	NO	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Henry, Anthony	Cle	10	177	17.7	97t	1
O'Neal, Deltha	Den	9	115	12.8	42	0
McNeil, Ryan	SD	8	55	6.9	33	0
Marion, Brock	Mia	5	227	45.4	100t	2
Scott, Chad	Pit	5	204	40.8	62	2
Smith, Otis	NE	5	181	36.2	78t	2
Glenn, Aaron	NYJ	5	82	16.4	60t	1
James, Tory	Oak	5	72	14.4	33	0
Little, Earl	Cle	5	33	6.6	15	0
McCutcheon, Daylon	Cle	4	62	15.5	32t	1
Warfield, Eric	KC	4	61	15.3	51t	1
Alexander, Brent	Pit	4	39	9.8	22	0
Williams, Willie	Sea	4	24	6.0	24	0
Starks, Duane	Bal	4	9	2.3	9	0
Lewis, Ray	Bal	3	115	38.3	64	0
Law, Ty	NE	3	91	30.3	46t	2
Fuller, Corey	Cle	3	82	27.3	49t	1
Buckley, Terrell	NE	3	76	25.3	52t	1
Green, Victor	NYJ	3	76	25.3	63t	1
Surtain, Patrick	Mia	3	74	24.7	41	1
Burris, Jeff	Ind	3	69	23.0	30t	1
Tongue, Reggie	Sea	3	67	22.3	55t	1
Walker, Denard	Den	3	60	20.0	39t	1
Woodson, Rod	Bal	3	57	19.0	47t	1
Jackson, Raymond	Cle	3	52	17.3	52	0
Clements, Nate	Buf	3	48	16.0	48t	1
Woods, Jerome	KC	3	48	16.0	25	0
Thomas, William	Oak	3	46	15.3	33	0
Kaesviharn, Kevin	Cin	3	41	13.7	29	0
Dyson, Andre	Ten	3	36	12.0	36	0
Jones, Marvin	NYJ	3	27	9.0	18	0
Hawkins, Artrell	Cin	3	26	8.7	22	0
Spencer, Jimmy	Den	3	25	8.3	18	0
Macklin, David	Ind	3	15	5.0	11	0
Nickerson, Hardy	Jax	3	4	1.3	2	0
Rolle, Samari	Ten	3	3	1.0	3	0
Beasley, Aaron	Jax	3	0	0.0	0	0
Farrior, James	NYJ	2	84	42.0	47	0
Dorsett, Anthony	Oak	2	65	32.5	39t	2
Bush, Devin	Cle	2	62	31.0	43t	1
Robinson, Damien	NYJ	2	58	29.0	30	0
Harrison, Rodney	SD	2	51	25.5	22	0
Spoon, Brandon	Buf	2	51	25.5	44t	2
Thomas, Zach	Mia	2	51	25.5	34t	1
Wesley, Greg	KC	2	44	22.0	30	0
Charlton, Ike	Sea	2	43	21.5	38t	1
Coleman, Marcus	NYJ	2	41	20.5	36	0
Perry, Jason	SD	2	37	18.5	37t	1
Robertson, Marcus	Sea	2	30	15.0	25	0
Smith, Justin	Cin	2	28	14.0	21	0
Vrabel, Mike	NE	2	27	13.5	15	0
Battles, Ainsley	Jax	2	26	13.0	26	0
Bulluck, Keith	Ten	2	21	10.5	21	0
Cota, Chad	Ind	2	21	10.5	12	0
Milloy, Lawyer	NE	2	21	10.5	21	0
Peterson, Mike	Ind	2	18	9.0	13	0
Harper, Nicholas	Ind	2	17	8.5	14	0
McGlockton, Chester	Den	2	17	8.5	17	0
Robinson, Eddie	Ten	2	13	6.5	13	0
Boyer, Brant	Cle	2	12	6.0	8	0
Bruschi, Tedy	NE	2	7	3.5	4	0
Townsend, Deshea	Pit	2	7	3.5	7	0
Patton, Marcus	KC	2	5	2.5	5	0
Craft, Jason	Jax	2	4	2.0	4	0
Cody, Tay	SD	2	3	1.5	3	0
Logan, Mike	Pit	2	2	1.0	2	0
Harris, Corey	Bal	2	1	0.5	1	0
Brown, Eric	Den	2	0	0.0	0	0
Madison, Sam	Mia	2	0	0.0	0	0
Pleasant, Anthony	NE	2	0	0.0	0	0
Winfield, Antoine	Buf	2	0	0.0	0	0
Spikes, Takeo	Cin	1	66	66.0	66t	1
Woodson, Charles	Oak	1	64	64.0	34	2

## INTERCEPTIONS

## RECORDS

Number: 62, Andre Coleman, San Diego (1995); Brock Marion, Miami (1999)

Yards: 1,524, Brock Marion, Miami (1999)

Longest TD: 106 yards, Noland Smith, Kansas City (1967)

Touchdowns: 3, Raymond Clayborn, New England (1977)

16+ RETURNS	TEAM	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Jenkins, Ronney	SD	58	1541	26.6	93t	2
Kasper, Kevin	Den	14	372	26.6	37	0
Rhodes, Dominic	Ind	14	356	25.4	88t	1
Joseph, Elvis	Jax	17	428	25.2	95t	1
Lewis, Jermaine	Bal	42	1039	24.7	76	0
Cole, Chris	Den	48	1127	23.5	52	0
Kirby, Terry	Oak	46	1066	23.2	90t	1
Wilkins, Terrence	Ind	44	1007	22.9	50	0
Yeast, Craig	NYJ	29	663	22.9	50	0
McDougal, Kevin	Ind	16	362	22.6	40	0
Hall, Dante	KC	43	969	22.5	71	0
Chambers, Chris	Mia	36	811	22.5	47	0
Rogers, Charlie	Sea	50	1120	22.4	64	0
Mason, Derrick	Ten	34	748	22.0	101t	1
Keaton, Curtis	Cin	42	891	21.2	64	0
Marion, Brock	Mia	17	371	21.8	55	0
Clements, Nate	Buf	30	628	20.9	37	0
Faulk, Kevin	NE	33	662	20.1	42	0
Black, Avion	Buf	25	498	19.9	29	0
King, Andre	Cle	14	279	19.9	27	0
Gibson, Damon	Jax	26	511	19.7	35	0
Bryson, Shawn	Buf	16	299	18.7	32	0
Poteat, Hank	Pit	16	250	15.6	30	0

## RECORDS

Number: 62, Fulton Walker, Miami-L.A. Raiders (1985)

Yards: 692, Fulton Walker, Miami-L.A. Raiders (1985)

Longest: 98 yards, Terance Mathis, N.Y. Jets (1990)

Touchdowns: 4, Rick Upchurch, Denver (1976)

15+ RETURNS	TEAM	NO	FC	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Brown, Troy	NE	29	15	413	14.2	85t	2
O'Neal, Deltha	Den	31	9	405	13.1	86t	1
Lewis, Jermaine	Bal	42	9	519	12.4	62	0
Ogden, Jeff	Mia	32	11	377	11.8	48	0
Dwight, Tim	SD	24	12	271	11.3	84t	1
Wilkins, Terrence	Ind	21	4	219	10.4	78t	1
Rogers, Charlie	Sea	25	10	244	9.8	34	0
Gibson, Damon	Jax	38	22	333	8.8	24	0
Milburn, Glyn	Chi-SD	21	7	172	8.2	20	0
Poteat, Hank	Pit	36	14	292	8.1	39	0
Hall, Dante	KC	32	6	235	7.3	26	0
Mason, Derrick	Ten	20	19	128	6.4	20	0
Dunn, David	Oak	19	11	169	8.9	23	0
Price, Peerless	Buf	19	8	110	5.8	24	0
Warrick, Pete	Cin	18	10	116	6.4	31	0
Northcutt, Dennis	Cle	15	9	86	5.7	32	0

## RECORDS

Number: 22, Mark Gastineau, N.Y. Jets (1984)

5.0+ SACKS	TEAM	NO	TEAM	NO	
Boulware, Peter	Bal	15.0	Walker, Gary	Jax	7.5
Abraham, John	NYJ	13.0	Clemons, Duane	KC	7.0
Miller, Jamir	Cle	13.0	Hamilton, Bobby	NE	7.0
Wiley, Marcellus	SD	13.0	Pryce, Trevor	Den	7.0
Gildon, Jason	Pit	12.0	Romanowski, Bill	Den	7.0
Brackens, Tony	Jax	11.0	Ushaw, Regan	Oak	7.0
Randle, John	Sea	11.0	Bromell, Lorenzo	Mia	6.5
Kearse, Jevon	Ten	10.0	Schobel, Aaron	Buf	6.5
Johnson, Raylee	SD	9.5	Simmons, Brian	Cin	6.5
Bell, Kendrell	Pit	9.0	Coleman, Roderick	Oak	6.0
Porter, Joey	Pit	9.0	McGinest, Willie	NE	6.0
Wilson, Reinard	Cin	9.0	Pleasant, Anthony	NE	6.0
Bratzke, Chad	Ind	8.5	Rogers, Tyrone	Cle	6.0
Brown, Chad	Sea	8.5	Sharper, Jamie	Bal	6.0
Smith, Justin	Cin	8.5	Spikes, Takeo	Cin	6.0
Taylor, Jason	Mia	8.5	Evans, Josh	Ten	5.5
Smith, Aaron	Pitt	8.0	Hardy, Kevin	Jax	5.5
Washington, Marcus	Ind	8.0	Bryant, Tony	Oak	5.0
McCrary, Michael	Balt	7.5	Ellis, Shaun	NYJ	5.0



## RECORDS

**Number:** 70, Tyrone Hughes, New Orleans (1996)  
**Yards:** 1,791, Tyrone Hughes, New Orleans (1996)  
**Longest TD:** 106 yards, Al Carmichael, Green Bay (1956); Roy Green, St. Louis (1979)  
**Touchdowns:** 4, Travis Williams, Green Bay (1967); Cecil Turner, Chicago (1970)

## KICK RETURNS

16+ RETURNS	TEAM	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Smith, Steve	Car	56	1431	25.6	99t	2
Howard, Desmond	Det	57	1446	25.4	91	0
Mitchell, Brian	Phi	41	1025	25.0	94t	1
Vaughn, Darrick	Atl	61	1491	24.4	96t	1
McAllister, Deuce	NO	45	1091	24.2	63	0
Lewis, Michael	NO	32	762	23.8	68	0
Swinton, Reggie	Dal	56	1327	23.7	77	0
Walters, Troy	Min	18	425	23.6	40	0
Bates, Michael	Was	49	1150	23.5	41	0
Denson, Autry	Chi	23	534	23.2	37	0
Jenkins, MarTay	Ari	49	1120	22.9	70	0
Sutherland, Vinny	SF	50	1140	22.8	65	0
Murphy, Frank	TB	20	445	22.3	39	0
Smith, Dwight	TB	16	355	22.2	45	0
Jacquet, Nate	Min	46	1012	22.0	53	0
Canidate, Trung	StL	36	748	20.8	40	0
Dixon, Ron	NYG	34	645	19.0	43	0
Rossum, Allen	GB	23	431	18.7	27	0

## RECORDS

**Number:** 70, Danny Reece, Tampa Bay (1979)  
**Yards:** 875, Desmond Howard, Green Bay (1996)  
**Longest:** 103, Robert Bailey, LA Rams (1994)  
**Touchdowns:** 4, Jack Christiansen, Detroit (1951)

## PUNT RETURNS

11+ RETURNS	TEAM	NO	FC	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Gordon, Darrien	Atl	31	6	437	14.1	74	0
Swinton, Reggie	Dal	31	8	414	13.4	65t	1
Metcalfe, Eric	Was	33	5	412	12.5	89t	1
Mitchell, Brian	Phi	39	22	467	12.0	54	0
Jackson, Arnold	Ari	40	0	461	11.5	55	0
Smith, Steve	Car	34	10	364	10.7	70t	1
Williams, Karl	TB	35	13	366	10.5	84t	1
Hakim, Az-Zahir	StL	36	12	330	9.2	32	0
Howard, Desmond	Det	22	19	201	9.1	34	0
Johnson, Leon	Chi	28	10	255	9.1	35	0
Barber, Tiki	NYG	38	12	338	8.9	23	0
McGarity, Wane	Dal-NO	25	11	221	8.8	42	0
McQuarters, R.W.	Chi	12	1	96	8.0	16	0
Jacquet, Nate	Min	29	6	219	7.6	23	0
Sutherland, Vinny	SF	21	19	147	7.0	19	0
Freeman, Antonio	GB	17	7	114	6.7	29	0
Rossum, Allen	GB	11	8	109	9.9	55t	1

## RECORDS

**Number:** 22.5, Michael Strahan, N.Y. Giants (2001)

## SACKS

4.5+ SACKS	TEAM	NO	TEAM	NO	
Strahan, Michael	NYG	22.5	Barrow, Micheal	NYG	6.0
Little, Leonard	StL	14.5	Burgess, Derrick	Phi	6.0
Clemons, Charlie	NO	13.5	Ellis, Greg	Dal	6.0
Gbaja-Biamila, K.	GB	13.5	Hamilton, Keith	NYG	6.0
Kerney, Patrick	Atl	12.0	Hovan, Chris	Minn	6.0
Porcher, Robert	Det	11.0	Howard, Darren	NO	6.0
Rice, Simeon	TB	11.0	Sapp, Warren	TB	6.0
Colvin, Roosevelt	Chi	10.5	Urlacher, Brian	Chi	6.0
Douglas, Hugh	Phi	9.5	Dronett, Shane	Atl	5.5
Daniels, Phillip	Chi	9.0	Johnstone, Lance	Min	5.5
Johnson, Joe	NO	9.0	Wayne, Nate	GB	5.5
Rucker, Mike	Car	9.0	Sawyer, Talance	Min	5.0
Wistrom, Grant	StL	9.0	Smith, Bruce	Was	5.0
Glover, La'Roi	NO	8.0	White, Steve	TB	5.0
Smith, Brady	Atl	8.0	Buckner, Brentson	Car	4.5
Simon, Corey	Phi	7.5	Coleman, Marco	Was	4.5
Holliday, Vonnice	GB	7.0	Flanigan, Jim	GB	4.5
Carter, Andre	SF	6.5	Fletcher, London	StL	4.5
Young, Brian	StL	6.5	Robinson, Bryan	Chi	4.5

Carter, Cris	Min	73	871	11.9	52	6
Toomer, Amani	NYG	72	1054	14.6	60t	5
Barber, Tiki	NYG	72	577	8.0	44	0
Dunn, Warrick	TB	68	557	8.2	31	3
Bruce, Isaac	StL	64	1106	17.3	51t	6
Thrash, James	Phi	63	833	13.2	64t	8
Staley, Duce	Phi	63	626	9.9	46t	2
Green, Ahman	GB	62	594	9.6	42	2
Williams, Ricky	NO	60	511	8.5	42	1
Schlesinger, Cory	Det	60	466	7.8	38	0
Chamberlain, Byron	Min	57	666	11.7	47t	3
Westbrook, Michael	Wash	57	664	11.6	76t	4
Stokes, J.J.	SF	54	585	10.8	47	7
Schroeder, Bill	GB	53	918	17.3	67t	9
Ismael, Raghib	Dal	53	834	15.7	80t	2
Freeman, Antonio	GB	52	818	15.7	63	6
Galloway, Joey	Dal	52	699	13.4	47t	3
Hilliard, Ike	NYG	52	659	12.7	38	6
Hayes, Donald	Car	52	597	11.5	48	2
Jurevicius, Joe	NYG	51	706	13.8	46t	3
Mathis, Terance	Atl	51	564	11.1	34	2
Muhammad, Muhsin	Car	50	585	11.7	43	1
Gardner, Rod	Was	46	741	16.1	85t	4
White, Dez	Chi	45	428	9.5	32	0
Christian, Bob	Atl	45	392	8.7	42	2
Walls, Wesley	Car	43	452	10.5	25	5
Pinkston, Todd	Phi	42	586	14.0	62t	4
Pittman, Michael	Ari	42	264	6.3	27	0
Sanders, Frank	Ari	41	618	15.1	68t	2
Lewis, Chad	Phi	41	422	10.3	33	6
Hearst, Garrison	SF	41	347	8.5	60t	1
Proehl, Ricky	StL	40	563	14.1	37	5
Johnson, Eric	SF	40	362	9.1	24	3
Warren, Lamont	Det	40	336	8.4	36	1
Hakim, Az-Zahir	StL	39	374	9.6	33	3
Comella, Greg	NYG	39	253	6.5	26	1
Conwell, Ernie	StL	38	431	11.3	47	4
Martin, Tony	Atl	37	548	14.8	63t	3
Jefferson, Shawn	Atl	37	539	14.6	48	2
Byrd, Isaac	Car	37	492	13.3	42	1
Sloan, David	Det	37	409	11.1	27	7
Green, Jacques	TB	36	402	11.2	35	1
Franks, Bubba	GB	36	322	8.9	31	9
Moore, Dave	TB	35	285	8.1	29	4
Alstott, Mike	TB	35	231	6.6	19t	1
Terrell, David	Chi	34	415	12.2	62	4
Jenkins, MarTay	Ari	32	518	16.2	53	3
Bradford, Corey	GB	31	526	17.0	56	2
Allen, James	Chi	30	203	6.8	34t	1
Bennett, Michael	Min	29	226	7.8	80t	1
Streets, Tai	SF	28	345	12.3	52	1
Davis, Stephen	Was	28	205	7.3	29	0
Reed, Jake	Min	27	309	11.4	27	1
Hoover, Brad	Car	26	185	7.1	19	0
Crumpler, Alge	Atl	25	330	13.2	57t	3
Mitchell, Tywan	Ari	25	196	7.8	24t	2
Williams, Karl	TB	24	314	13.1	42	1
Kleinsasser, Jimmy	Min	24	184	7.7	18	0
Levens, Dorsey	GB	24	159	6.6	19	1
Martin, Cecil	Phi	24	124	5.2	17	2
Finneran, Brian	Atl	23	491	21.3	52	3
Robinson, Marcus	Chi	23	269	11.7	34t	2
Stewart, James	Det	23	242	10.5	56	1
Hetherington, Chris	Car	23	124	5.4	15	0
Lockett, Kevin	Was	22	293	13.3	34	0
Crowell, Germane	Det	22	289	13.1	46t	2
Foster, Larry	Det	22	283	12.9	36	0
Barlow, Kevan	SF	22	247	11.2	61t	1
Thomas, Anthony	Chi	22	178	8.1	23	0
Baxter, Fred	Chi	22	148	6.7	19	2
Mitchell, Freddie	Phi	21	283	13.5	29	1
Wilson, Robert	NO	21	277	13.2	44	0
Emanuel, Bert	NE-Det	21	246	11.7	29	0
Henderson, William	GB	21	193	9.2	26	0
Jones, Thomas	Ari	21	151	7.2	18	0
Huntley, Richard	Car	21	101	4.8	23	1
Williams, Boo	NO	20	202	10.1	26	3
Smith, Maurice	Atl	19	230	12.1	79t	1
Flemister, Zeron	Was	18	196	10.9	33	2
Canidate, Trung	StL	17	154	9.1	29	0
Smith, Emmitt	Dal	17	116	6.8	22	0
Cook, Jameel	TB	17	89	5.2	16	0
Kelly, Reggie	Atl	16	142	8.9	25	0
Chapman, Doug	Min	16	135	8.4	38t	1

Beasley, Fred	SF	16	99	6.2	15	0
Wiley, Michael	Dal	16	99	6.2	17	1
Makovicka, Joel	Ari	16	95	5.9	25	1
Kozlowski, Brian	Atl	15	270	18.0	46	1
McAllister, Deuce	NO	15	166	11.1	22t	1
Harris, Jackie	Dal	15	141	9.4	28	2
Bennett, Donnell	Was	15	112	7.5	30	0
Mangum, Kris	Car	15	89	5.9	11	2
Battaglia, Marco	Cin-Was	14	127	9.1	17	0
Jeffers, Patrick	Car	14	127	9.1	21	0

## RECORDS

**Number:** 14, Dick "Night Train" Lane, LA Rams (1952)  
**Return Yards:** 303, Deion Sanders, San Francisco (1994)  
**Longest TD Return:** 102 yards, Bob Smith, Detroit (1949);  
Eric Barnes, N.Y. Giants (1961)  
**Touchdowns:** 4, Eric Allen, Philadelphia (1993)

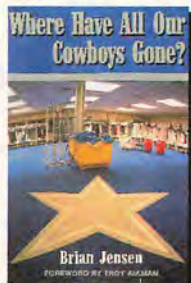
## INTERCEPTIONS

2+ INTERCEPTIONS	TEAM	NO	YDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Barber, Ronde	TB	10	86	8.6	36t	1
Lassiter, Kwamie	Ari	9	80	8.9	25	0
Evans, Doug	Car	8	126	15.8	49	1
Bronson, Zack	SF	7	165	23.6	97t	2
Plummer, Ahmed	SF	7	45	6.4	24	0
Bly, Dre'	StL	6	150	25.0	93t	2
Knight, Sammy	NO	6	114	19.0	40	0
Abraham, Donnie	TB	6	98	16.3	46	0
Sharper, Darren	GB	6	78	13.0	23	0
Grant, Deon	Car	5	96	19.2	43	0
Buchanan, Ray	Atl	5	85	17.0	33	0
Brown, Mike	Chi	5	81	16.2	33t	2
Ambrose, Ashley	Atl	5	43	8.6	27	0
Smoot, Fred	Was	5	36	7.2	36	0
Williams, Tyrone	GB	4	117	29.3	69t	1
Lyght, Todd	Det	4	72	18.0	59t	1
Williams, Aeneas	StL	4	69	17.3	42t	2
McClellan, Dexter	StL	4	66	16.5	43	0
Jackson, Dexter	TB	4	42	10.5	29	0
Allen, Will	NYG	4	27	6.8	17	0
Arrington, LaVar	Was	3	120	40.0	67t	1
Brooks, Derrick	TB	3	65	21.7	53	0
Hitchcock, Jimmy	Car	3	65	21.7	35	0
Webster, Jason	SF	3	61	20.3	31	0
Urlacher, Brian	Chi	3	60	20.0	41	0
Wayne, Nate	GB	3	55	18.3	35	0
McQuarters, R.W.	Chi	3	47	15.7	43	0
Parrish, Tony	Chi	3	36	12.0	26	0
Sehorn, Jason	NYG	3	34	11.3	34t	1
Williams, Shaun	NYG	3	25	8.3	20	0
Bellamy, Jay	NO	3	21	7.0	21	0
Lynch, John	TB	3	21	7.0	15	0
Bailey, Champ	Was	3	17	5.7	12	0
Woodson, Darren	Dal	3	11	3.7	6	0
Schulters, Lance	SF	3	0	0.0	0	0
Vincent, Troy	Phi	3	0	0.0	0	0
Wilson, Adrian	Ari	2	97	48.5	61t	1
Bailey, Robert	Det	2	74	37.0	74t	1
Trotter, Jeremiah	Phi	2	64	32.0	50t	1
Winborn, Jamie	SF	2	40	20.0	29	0
Coakley, Dexter	Dal	2	39	19.5	29t	2
McKenzie, Mike	GB	2	38	19.0	38t	1
Jue, Bhawoh	GB	2	35	17.5	35	0
Mathis, Kevin	NO	2	34	17.0	23	0
Minter, Mike	Car	2	32	16.0	30	0
Barrett, David	Ari	2	30	15.0	23	0
Fair, Terry	Det	2	29	14.5	26t	1
Hawthorne, Duane	Dal	2	28	14.0	22	0
Griffith, Robert	Min	2	25	12.5	14	0
Colvin, Rosevelt	Chi	2	22	11.0	14	0
Harris, Al	Phi	2	22	11.0	14	0
Schulz, Kurt	Det	2	22	11.0	19	0
Fletcher, London	StL	2	18	9.0	18	0
Brooking, Keith	Atl	2	17	8.5	9	0
Dawkins, Brian	Phi	2	15	7.5	15	0
Harris, Bernardo	GB	2	12	6.0	8	0
Claiborne, Chris	Det	2	11	5.5	6	0
Rice, Ron	Det	2	9	4.5	8	0
Shade, Sam	Was	2	9	4.5	9	0
Moore, Damon	Phi	2	2	1.0	2	0
Terrell, David	Was	2	0	0.0	0	0
Wilkinson, Dan	Was	2	0	0.0	0	0
Wistrom, Grant	StL	2	-4	-2.0	0	0



# Book Reviews

## Catching up with 'America's Team'



**WHERE HAVE ALL THE COWBOYS GONE?** By Brian Jensen with foreword by Troy Aikman. 262 pages. \$26.95. Cooper Square Press.

For fans of the Dallas Cowboys, upset by another 5-11 season and last-place finish in the NFC East, reading this book will be both therapeutic and painful. Reading about some of the greatest players of one of pro football's most storied franchises will bring back a lot of happy memories, but it will also force fans to realize how far the Cowboys have fallen.

Author Brian Jensen has tracked down 101 former Cowboys, some of them well-known and others not, to find out what happened to them after their careers ended. He found players who had become successful, he found others who had very sad stories to tell. Others, like quarterback Don Meredith, didn't have anything at all to say.

The cross-section of players—from the team's early building days, through the glory years and some of more recent vintage—gives an interesting perspective of what happens to guys once they can no longer play the game. Some were ready for the transition to life after football, some were never able to make it.

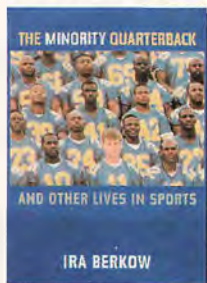
There are stories that have been told before, from players such as Bob Hayes and Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson. The more interesting stories come from players who were not always in the headlines during their careers. Offensive guard John Niland still believes a block he missed may have led to Meredith's premature retirement. Other players talk about their personal and financial struggles, but the most moving story comes from former safety Charlie Waters and how he dealt with the sudden death of his 17-year-old son in 1995.

There are success stories, such as Andy Frederick graduating from college at the age of 40 and Butch Johnson competing in a triathlon in Hawaii at age 44. Also included are the sad personal stories of former Dallas receivers Golden Richards and Lance Rentzel, both of whom fell into trouble with the law after their playing careers.

A book like this is a lot of work, requiring time and phone calls to find players who have disappeared from the limelight. What Jensen found is that some players like that location, while others were more than happy to reminisce.

—Rob Rains

## Times' Berkow explores the football psyche



**THE MINORITY QUARTERBACK: And Other Lives in Sports.** By Ira Berkow. 307 pages (hardcover). \$26. Ivan R. Dee.

It is rare for a sportswriter to illuminate more than scores and statistics and stadiums, and that is what makes Ira Berkow of *The New York Times* such a pleasant anomaly. Berkow, more than anything, wants to know how the cultural environment—spanning morals, gambling, psychology, medicine, violence, addiction, sex, religion—influences particular sports and athletes, and what the effect is.

*The Minority Quarterback: And Other Lives in Sports* offers a wide-ranging collection of the veteran journalist's work. The title refers to a captivating tale of a white quarterback at a historically black college football power, Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It turns the tables on the typical minority conflict, using the quintessential quandary African-Americans battled in football for years—that is, whether they could play football's glamour position. Berkow's story of role reversal deftly portrays the nuances that make race, in sports and beyond, a constant conundrum.

Professional football takes center stage in several captivating profiles, beginning with a retired John Riggins reflecting on his infamous Dionysian salutation to Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. Seated across from the justice at the National Press Club's black-tie dinner in 1985, Riggins, then a star with the Redskins, drunkenly, and infamously, said: "C'mon, Sandy, baby, loosen up. You're too tight."

Berkow shows the mischievous side that prompted Riggins' remark, as well as the free spirit brave enough to buck the NFL and skip a season in 1980. The running back's battles with alcohol, disintegrating relationships and struggles to be a substantive father all come into focus.

Better still is a wrenching tale of the NFL's relentless toll on the human body. Timm Rosenbach, a million-dollar quarterback with the Arizona Cardinals during the early 1990s, left the game long before he turned 30. He wasn't cut or traded—he just resented the calculating machinery of the nation's most powerful sports league.

—Erik Spanberg

## A view from atop the NFL examination table



**PLAYING HURT: Treating and Evaluating the Warriors of the NFL.** By Pierce E. Scranton Jr., M.D., with foreword by Tom Flores. 186 pages (hardcover). \$25.95. Brassey's Inc.

Pierce E. Scranton Jr., a practicing orthopedic surgeon, spent 17 years as the team physician for the Seattle Seahawks. *Playing Hurt* is a fascinating firsthand account of his experience in "a typical year in the NFL."

For Scranton, work begins with the summary medical reports he writes after the final game as the team assesses its needs for the next season. He conducts physical exams of draft hopefuls at the league's annual winter combine and advises, "If you draft an offensive lineman who has a bad shoulder, you've probably just wasted a pick."

He participates in staff discussions of potential draftees' medical and football grades. Of draft day itself, he says, "All the organization's knowledge, wisdom, wile and skill went into this one event."

More than once, the doctor reminds us that medicine is not an exact science, a fact reinforced repeatedly by then-Seahawks coach Chuck Knox, whom Scranton says "was kind enough to point out that I had flunked (Hall-of-Fame offensive tackle) Anthony Munoz."

Scranton got his first hands-on experience in sports medicine as a resident at the University of Pittsburgh with an inner-city youth-football program.

"I covered these games for several years," he writes. "I just couldn't quit because it was so much fun."

That enthusiasm stayed with him as he helped care for the Pitt football and basketball teams in the 1970s and for the Seahawks organization, which he joined in 1979. In those days, Scranton writes, "The field of sports medicine was just emerging. Orthopedic doctors (were) sharing information and working in the common interest to help young athletes recover from injuries."

From the sideline, the doctor offers an intimate view of a violent sport and the devastating injuries suffered. Scranton tells his tale with insight and affection, balancing professional duty with compassion for the players in his care.

—Gerard Kavanagh



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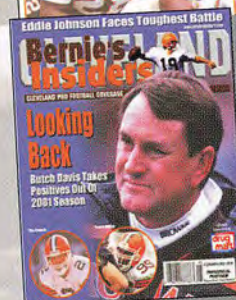
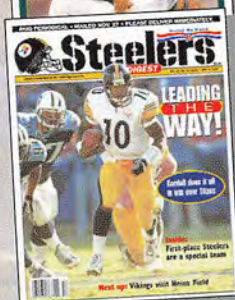
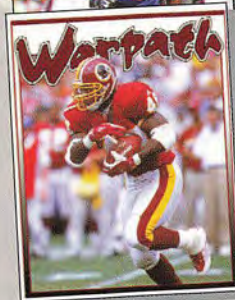
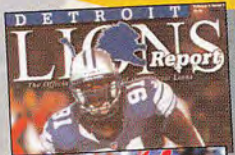
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